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COTTERILL'S

FAMILY PRAYERS.

CHIEFLY DERIVED

FROM THE LANGUAGE OF THE SCRIPTURES,
AND THE LITURGY OF THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND.

CAREFULLY REVISED,

BY

WILLIAM W. SPEAR,
Rector of St. Luke's, Philadelphia, late of St. Michael's, Charleston.

TO WHICH IS PREFIXED

A MEMOIR OF THE AUTHOR.

PHILADELPHIA:
HERMAN HOOKER—178 CHESNUT STREET.

1844.

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TO

THE CONGREGATIONS

OF

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, PHILADELPHIA,

AND

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, CHARLESTON,

THE FORMER

OF WHICH NOW OCCUPIES HIS MIND,

WHILE THE LATTER

STILL RETAINS A PLACE IN HIS HEART,

THIS VOLUME,

PREPARED WITH A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO

THEIR COMFORT AND PROFIT,

IS DEDICATED BY

THEIR OBLIGED AND AFFECTIONATE SERVANT,

THE EDITOR,

WITH THE EARNEST HOPE

THAT *NONE* OF THOSE WHO HAVE

EVER BEEN UNDER HIS PASTORAL CARE,

MAY BE NUMBERED AT LAST

AMONG "THE FAMILIES

THAT CALL *NOT* UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD."

"And the Lord blessed the house of Obed-edom, and all that pertained to him, because of the ark of God."—2 Sam. vi, 12.

EDITOR'S PREFACE.

NOTHING is more gratifying to a Christian pastor, than the demand, on the part of his people, for a book of Family Prayers. The erection of a Family Altar, even more than an attendance upon the public Sanctuary, seems indicative of a desire to acknowledge God in all their ways, and to sanctify their relative engagements with the Word of God and prayer.

Yet it is no easy matter to supply this demand. For though there are not wanting a great variety of Manuals for this purpose, few of them are so adapted to their object, as to be used with comfort and profit. The style which is ap-

propriate to offices of devotion is altogether peculiar, and if it be difficult to pray extempore, without occasional indecorums and constant repetitions, it is perhaps as difficult, to *compose* a form of prayer, which shall be natural and edifying.

The editor has been in the habit of using all the Manuals which have been published from time to time, and without intending to disparage others, he has never been able to use any of them so long with continued satisfaction, as that of Cotterill. His family prayers are already known in this country, four editions having been printed; but for some time past the volume has not been accessible. It seemed, therefore, a favourable opportunity for issuing a revised edition. There was some inconvenience in the use of the former editions, from the circumstance, that the length

of the prayers was too great, while the matter of each part was so excellent, as to make it difficult to decide which should be omitted, without a good deal of previous consideration; and, again, because each petition was printed in a separate paragraph, so as to break the continuity of subject, and somewhat to damp the ardour of feeling. To remedy these inconveniences, has required a good deal of pains, though there has been no material alteration in any one part. The prayers have been abridged in length, not so much by omission of paragraphs, as of clauses and parentheses, which tended to mar the simplicity and directness of the style. Where additions were deemed necessary, they have been derived, like the rest, from the pages of Scripture or the Liturgy of the Church of England. Separate sentences of like kind, have been collected

together, as far as possible, and the paragraphs, as now arranged, are intended to indicate the different kinds of prayer; namely, Adoration, Confession, Petition, Thanksgiving and Intercession. Many of the *Occasional* Prayers have been omitted, as not likely to be generally used; and instead of these, a Memoir of the Author has been extracted from the London Christian Observer, containing some interesting circumstances, and many valuable observations. This, it is hoped, will be peculiarly welcome to those who have long known the author, through the medium of this volume; and may serve to awaken a greater interest in behalf of his only published work, among those who are now for the first time introduced to its acquaintance.

W. W. S.

MEMOIR

OF THE

REV. THOMAS COTTERILL.

THE Rev. Thomas Cotterill was the second son of a respectable woolstapler at Cannock, in the county of Stafford, where he was born Dec. 1, 1779. From childhood he manifested a strong predilection for the ministerial office, and was remarkable as a boy for steadiness and diligence. The schools to which he was sent in early life afforded him no peculiar advantages; but he afterwards enjoyed the benefit of superior classical instruction at the grammar-school in Birmingham; and at the usual age was admitted a member of St. John's College, Cambridge, with very respectable qualifications. His chief companion at college, and his dearest friend, was Henry Martyn. Their friendship, which commenced before either of them showed any decided indications of a religious character, was firmly cemented, by their becoming, about the same time, the subjects of a change in their views and feelings, which had a controlling influence over the future lives of both. "The name of Martyn," Mr. Cotterill once said on a public occasion, "is associated with the most eventful circumstances of my life. We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company."

He had enjoyed in early life few opportunities of obtaining religious knowledge. His parents were respectable and amiable, and by many would have been accounted religious; but, sincere and upright as they were, according to the extent of their knowledge, and few persons were ever more so, they were at that period exceedingly defective in their views of Christian truth and their exhibition of Christian practice. They were, however, careful to impress upon the minds of their children whatever they themselves knew of religion, and rigidly enforced a consistency of moral conduct; but little more was expected, or desired, than attention to the outward

forms of religion, and to those things which are honourable and of good report in the estimation of the world. In these respects, Thomas, the subject of this memoir, was, at the time of his going to college, every thing his father could wish—(his mother had died some years before.) He was strictly moral in his outward conduct, and was beloved in a remarkable degree by all who knew him. Indeed, he possessed from childhood a remarkable sweetness of disposition. But during his residence at college, that change commenced to which allusion has been already made, and which, however estimable the previous character may be, eventually makes all things new, either in their nature or their direction. Though it is not in any case needful that we should be able to trace up this renovation to some first strong impressions made upon the mind, the turning point in the journey of life, yet surely it is both allowable and useful to contemplate the means which God employs to bring men out of darkness into his marvellous light, and to guide their feet into the way of peace: and in the present case such a review will illustrate the line of distinction which separates the amiable and respectable worldly character, from the decided, the devoted Christian.

During the latter part of his residence at Cambridge, Mr. Cotterill would sometimes repair, with his friend Martyn, merely for idleness or amusement, to Trinity church; and though for a time, he scoffed and trifled, and remained unmoved, yet he could never shake off from his mind the impressions made upon it by the discourses which he there heard. Either Mr. Simeon's earnestness was irrational, or his own religious system was extremely defective. This conviction led him to serious inquiry, and to prayer for divine direction, which issued in a thorough persuasion that the service of God is the great concern of man, and that he himself had most awfully neglected it. Under these first impressions of the supreme importance of religion, he wrote to the several members of his family, expressing the most affectionate interest in their welfare, and endeavouring to turn their thoughts to those subjects which were now of supreme, and almost exclusive importance in his estimation. It does not, however, appear, that previously to his departure from Cambridge he attained those correct and scriptural views of religious truth which he ultimately adopted, and to which, for more than twenty years, he steadily adhered.

For the sake of those of my readers who have not seriously turned their minds to religious inquiries, it may be desirable to be somewhat more explicit with regard to the nature of that change of mind which, even in its commencement, produced such important practical effects. In this case, as in many similar ones, there was probably very little addition of speculative knowledge. Had Mr. Cotterill been previously asked what was the moral condition of man, he would perhaps have replied, in the words of our Church Catechism, "We are born in sin, and the children of wrath." If it had been further inquired of him, who was the Saviour of mankind, he could have felt no hesitation in giving the proper answer. And had he been questioned respecting any other leading doctrine or precept of Christianity, his opinions might have been found, in the main, scripturally correct. But though he had little of speculative truth to learn, he had much to learn of his own personal interest in doctrines which had hitherto remained dormant in his understanding. His views were new, therefore, in point of intensity.

There is another peculiarity in such cases, not unworthy of notice. Though little may be added to the amount of religious knowledge, there is a vast change in the relative importance attached to some of its different branches. All parts are equally unimportant to the man whose heart is unaffected by the orthodox confession of his lips.

When a man, in the language of Scripture, has "tasted the powers of the world to come;" has become impressed with the idea that he shall remove at no distant period to that unknown region of blessedness or wo, where he shall continue throughout eternity; his mind will dwell with great frequency and most intense interest on those parts of revealed truth which immediately affect his own future safety and happiness. His own moral state, as viewed by his Creator and Judge; the way of acceptance made known in the Gospel; the evidences of an accepted state; the service which God requires at his hands, and the means afforded for enabling him to perform it: these are the subjects which are felt to be of vital importance, and to which all others are made subservient, by one who has learned to estimate the relative value of time and eternity. The peculiar doctrines which, after anxious and diligent examination, Mr. Cotterill was led to regard as the foundation of all right views and right conduct in religion, shall be stated in his own words:—"The entire

and radical corruption of human nature by the Fall; the consequent necessity of an entire and radical change by the agency of the Holy Ghost; justification, complete, from first to last, through the merits of the Lord Jesus Christ, by faith, by faith only, to the utter exclusion of works; the indispensable necessity of holiness, of universal holiness, of heart and life, as constituting the grand evidence of a justifying faith, and the only qualification for heaven." These fundamental truths he studiously incorporated into all his ministerial instructions; firmly believing them to be in perfect agreement with Scripture, and with the formularies of the Established Church, and that on the cordial reception of these doctrines the salvation of the soul depends.

These were his matured sentiments, and they were thus expressed by him after he had been for some time in the ministry; but they had been in a course of formation from the time he received his first religious impressions at Cambridge, and they soon came into active exercise. A conviction of their truth led him to embrace them, and experience of their value strengthened his attachment.

Mr. Cotterill was ordained to the curacy of Tutbury, in Staffordshire, about a year and a half after he left Cambridge, the intermediate time having been spent in contributing to the happiness and spiritual welfare of his own family. Several amongst them, who had utterly disregarded his expostulations and advice when he was at a distance, were unable, under the power of Divine grace, long to resist the influence of a consistent and lovely exhibition of Christian principles constantly before their eyes. His beloved friend, Mr. Price, who was intimately acquainted with his feelings and pursuits at this period of his life, has given the following detail of them in a funeral sermon preached at Sheffield. "It was in his early life," remarks Mr. Price, "that I became acquainted with your late and now deeply lamented minister. At that time, though looking forward to the office of a clergyman in the Church of England, he had, it is probable, no idea of the peculiar responsibility and serious duties of a minister of the Church of Christ. The general respectability of the clerical office, and its peculiar facilities of introduction to the graces of literature and the charms of superior society, most probably caught and detained his attention. But, through the mercy of God, his ultimate determination to 'the ministry which he' subsequently 'received in the Lord Jesus,' was not, as I well and tho-

roughly know, without the most determined resolution, through the grace of God, 'to fulfil it.' Well do we remember the time when his understanding was opened to understand the Scriptures; well do we remember the time when his heart seemed ready to burst with a sense of its former blindness and insensibility; when sin appeared 'exceeding sinful;' when Christ appeared exceeding precious, 'the very chief among ten thousands, and altogether lovely,' the One only Name under heaven given amongst men whereby we can be saved,—made of God unto us, wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption;—when, with a consciousness of his own utter helplessness and insufficiency, the communication of the Holy Spirit seemed of supreme moment, to instruct, to sanctify, to comfort, and to seal unto the day of redemption. Well do we remember the time when the office and duties of a Christian minister appeared awful, and yet beautiful, in his eyes; when his soul was animated with vehement desire to undertake the office and perform the duties, and his tongue, touched as it were with a live coal from the altar, to proclaim unto his fellow sinners the glad tidings of that salvation of which he hoped himself to be a partaker with them."—"Well do we remember the time, when measures and plans, and lines of conduct began to be weighed, and pursued unceasingly for the good of others; when first the various wants of all within his reach, whether spiritual or temporal, were investigated and relieved to the utmost; when the larger portion of his time was occupied in exploring the haunts of disease and wretchedness, in kneeling by the bed of sickness, in carrying relief and consolation to the more retired recesses of want and sorrow, in satisfying himself (I speak that which I have known, and testify that which I have seen) with a *meal of bread*, that he might give his *meal of meat* to others."

Mr. Price particularly mentions his anxiety for the spiritual welfare of his relatives, and especially of his father. "And what," he asks, "was the result? The father of so many prayers and solicitudes was born again in his old age, and lived for years the delight and glory of his sons. Judge for yourselves, my brethren, the feelings with which your late minister must have contemplated such a father, when for years he had the opportunity of witnessing his meekness and quietness of spirit, his astonishing patience under occasionally great bodily suffering, his complete and entire deadness to those gainful

pursuits which before had been so habitual to him; and, above all, his spirituality of mind, which, at the advanced age of eighty, could delight, with all the vivacity of youth and the firmness of manhood, in never-wearied meditations, and discussions upon those high and holy subjects which involve the last and dearest interests of all mankind."

In July, 1805, he was elected Perpetual Curate of Lane-End, a populous village in the Staffordshire Potteries, containing at that time about six or seven thousand inhabitants; to which place "he was allured principally by the prospect of abundant work, which presented itself to the eye of a Christian minister." "When I arrived there," said he to an intimate friend, "and found myself in the streets with the people swarming about me in all directions, I looked at them till I loved them so that I made up my mind not to leave them (should the will of God be so) till I had laboured hard and long among them to do them good." Hard and long did he labour among them, and much good, no doubt, he did among a people so affectionate and attached as numbers of them were to him. On the Sunday, he conducted two full services, and a lecture in the evening. During the week he had a service in the church, and his other evenings were spent in private readings, in teaching the children, or in visiting the sick. He established a very large Sunday school; and in every possible way laid himself out for the good of the inhabitants.

In 1808, Mr. Cotterill married; and when his family increased, he was compelled to add to his other labours, the care of pupils, for his income, while at Lane-End, never exceeded a hundred pounds a year. He could not, consequently, now devote every evening in the week to his parochial labours; but he had an extraordinary art of finding time for all his duties; and he debarred himself even of necessary rest, in order to prepare a volume of *Family Prayers*, which have met with general approbation.

At the commencement of 1817, he obtained the Perpetual curacy of St. Paul's, Sheffield, in a manner as honourable to the worthy vicar on whom the appointment devolved as to himself. That gentleman having formed a favourable opinion of Mr. Cotterill's character and talents from general report, and from the perusal of a visitation sermon which he had published, was so anxious to ascertain how far his qualifications as a preacher fitted

him for so important a situation, that he went over to Lane-End for the purpose of being present during divine service. Every thing which he there heard and saw convinced him of Mr. Cotterill's ministerial excellence, and the result was the removal of the latter to Sheffield in the following summer. In this new situation, which was, in every respect, one of increased importance, he showed himself, as he had ever done, "ready to every good word and work."

His ministerial duties (till a few months before his death) consisted of two services at his own church, and a sermon once a month at the parish church on the Sunday, and also on the Wednesday evening, besides occasional services. In turn with the other clergy of the place, he visited the infirmary and workhouse. He also gave regular instruction of a more private nature to some of the poor, who, from old age or other circumstances, stood in peculiar need of it; and once a week he assembled the teachers and scholars of the Sunday school connected with his church. It needs scarcely to be remarked, that he was also in the constant habit of visiting the sick and afflicted. Being no less able than willing to give suitable advice in most exigencies, either of a temporal or spiritual nature, a considerable portion of his time was occupied in attending to such applications. He delighted in the office of a peace-maker, and he was peculiarly fitted for it by his quick discrimination of character and his unfailing sweetness of temper. He never thought of himself when an opportunity occurred of doing good to others. Every one could read in his countenance, "Here I am; employ me as you will for your benefit, provided the object be a lawful one." With such a disposition and such unusual powers of usefulness, his employments, amidst so large a population as that of Sheffield, would have been quite as much as his strength would allow, even if he had not unhappily been obliged, from the smallness of his income, to receive pupils into his house, who occupied seven or eight hours of his laborious day. The consequence was, that he seldom had leisure for the preparation of his sermons,—an occupation which afforded him the highest enjoyment,—till late in the evening; and sometimes he devoted whole nights to that object. No constitution could long bear up under such a pressure of engagements; and, about six months before his death, his friends saw with anxiety that his health was gradually declining. At their earnest solicitation he reluctantly gave up preach-

ing at the parish church, and about the same time spent a few weeks for the benefit of the sea air at Bridlington, chiefly, however, on account of the ill health of his wife. But this was a season only of comparative rest. While there, he preached regularly in the church, and exerted himself in various ways with such unaffected modesty and humility that he will be long remembered at Bridlington as a faithful and affectionate minister of "Christ's flock scattered throughout the world."

On his return to Sheffield, his friends were grieved to find that he had derived little benefit from change of air, yet he continued the performance of his usual duties, till Sunday, November 23d, when he was so much exhausted after the morning service, that he gladly accepted an offer of assistance in the afternoon. In a few days he was attacked by a fever, which appeared soon to yield to the remedies employed; but, attempting to resume his labours with his pupils, he brought on a relapse, which assumed a very alarming aspect. From this time he was evidently impressed with the idea that he should not recover; and even during his delirium eternity seems constantly to have occupied his mind. Often would he imagine his beloved flock before him, and address to them the most affectionate and awakening expostulations on the vanity of the world, the nearness of eternity, and the necessity of a heavenly mind for the enjoyment of future blessedness. Sometimes he would call successively for his children; and, reminding them of their peculiar failings and dangers, he would address them on that great subject which filled his mind, with all the authority of a father, yet with a sweetness of voice and manner which was peculiar to him, and never forsook him. "Upon more than one occasion," Mr. Price states in his sermon, "in the earlier part of his illness, when he was quite himself, calling me by my name, he said, with great affection and solemnity, '*The day, the day* is nearer than you conceive.'" Mr. Price adds several remarks which he made during his mental wanderings, but which he mentions merely as showing the habitual bent of his thoughts. He gives a most affecting account of him in one of his lucid hours. His wife and his friend had been praying by his bed-side. "When his friend," continues Mr. Price, "had ceased praying, your lamented minister raised himself upon his left elbow, and with his right hand earnestly stretched out towards heaven, and with a voice in its full strength, addressed one of the most clear, con-

nected, pertinent, and awful prayers to God, that was, perhaps, uttered by man. It comprised a reference to his wife, his children, himself, and his friend; and then distinctly to his own flock, and all the people of the place, and to the extension of Christ's kingdom throughout the world." His chief request was, that "they might be prepared to stand before the Son of Man." At the close, he sunk down powerless and exhausted on his bed. He continued for about ten days in a state of the greatest danger, and twice he seemed rescued from the grasp of death by the assiduity and skill of his medical attendants. At the end of that time, a favourable change in the disorder renewed the hopes of his anxious friends. The delirium gradually subsided, but he was too weak to admit of conversation. Still the peaceful state of his mind was evident to all around him, and his gentle, affectionate spirit made him endeavour by words and looks of kindness to show his gratitude for their attentions and services. The extraordinary interest felt for him was not confined to his own family and congregation, but seemed to pervade the whole population of the town in which he resided.

The hopes which had been excited, were soon crushed by a return of fever, which in two days put an end to his sufferings. The same holy calm reigned within his breast to the last. Not a shadow of a doubt seems ever to have crossed his mind with respect to his future prospects; and his own will seemed to be annihilated, being absorbed in the will of God. The day previous to his death, his brother having remarked to him that heaven was a blessed place, his countenance lighted up, and he exclaimed, "O yes, it is indeed." "And you," his brother replied, "will soon be there." He paused, and with an expression of voice and countenance, as if he dared not indulge a wish for immediate blessedness, he rejoined, "*That* must depend on the will of Him with whom are the issues of life and death." Just before he expired, his afflicted family being assembled round his bed, he prayed for a considerable time in the most fervent and energetic manner, with all his faculties evidently in full exercise. At last his strength failed, and he continued his intercourse with Heaven in a lower tone, when the word 'temptation' struck the ear of his anxious brother; but, on listening attentively, he perceived with delight, that he was praying for his children, that they might be kept from "the temptations of the world, the flesh, and

the devil." His voice then gradually sinking, in a few minutes, without a sigh or a struggle, he closed his earthly labours, and entered into his eternal rest. The feelings of all present during the heart-affecting stillness which succeeded, were in perfect unison with the expression of one amongst them, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."

When Mr. Cotterill's death was announced, it seemed as if every one who heard the mournful intelligence had lost a son, a father, or a brother. A few days after his decease, a meeting of the seat-holders of St. Paul's was held, for the purpose of expressing their sorrow for the loss of their minister, and their respect for his memory. The whole congregation were requested to put themselves in mourning; and as if they felt every mark of kindness and attention to their departed *friend* (the name by which they affectionately designated him) as a personal favour to themselves, votes of thanks were passed to the medical gentlemen who had attended upon him with unwearied assiduity, and to those ladies who had watched over him and ministered to his wants with maternal tenderness.

It was well known to Mr. Cotterill's congregation, that his family, consisting of a wife and five children, were left without provision, and they hastened to afford them effectual aid. The day after the funeral a meeting was convened which was marked by a truly generous flow of Christian feeling and benevolence. Nor were this feeling and benevolence confined to the neighbourhood of Sheffield. In Staffordshire, where Mr. Cotterill had previously exercised his ministry, and indeed wherever his character was known, the esteem and affection with which he was regarded, have been evidenced by liberality towards those whom he left behind him.

Though the character of Mr. Cotterill has been, to a considerable extent, developed in the preceding historical sketch of his life, it may be desirable to advert more particularly to some of its leading features, with a view, chiefly, of illustrating the cause of his ministerial usefulness. He was remarkable, not for originality of genius, but for vigour and soundness of intellect; not for the exhibition of one dazzling talent that attracted the admiration of one class of hearers, but for possessing a union of mental endowments which rendered him interesting and useful to all. His mind was so constituted and so balanced as exactly to fit him for his work. It was

quick in perception, strong in apprehension, happy in combination, and ready, honest, and argumentative in the development of its stores. His intellectual powers were much assisted by his moral qualities. An unusual freedom from selfishness, vanity, and irritability, made him see every subject in the clear day-light of truth, and stamped a peculiar value on the decisions of his judgment. In attempting to portray this part of his character, the language of his friend, Mr. Price, must again be adopted. "If there be one quality more than others which in him manifested itself with singular felicity, it was sweetness of temper. When sweetness of temper is combined with strength of understanding, soundness of principle, and corresponding exertions, it constitutes the greatest charm of earthly existence. Oh! what an appalling sum of misery in domestic and social life is the product of violent, of sullen, of envious, of obstinate, of jealous and froward temper! Throughout the whole of our thirty years' friendship, some of which were passed in almost constant and close intercourse, although we occasionally thought differently, and came to opposite conclusions upon subjects which cannot be deemed of minor importance, and in which both of us were seriously interested, yet during that period of thirty years I never heard one unkind word, I never saw one unkind look, I never had known cause to suspect, and I never did suspect him of one unkind thought towards me. Nay more, I never knew him (and I think I was continually admitted to his inmost privacies,) I never knew him utter, or appear secretly to entertain, one unworthy thought of any human being! Hence it was that with due allowance for the decided opinions which such an understanding as his could not but form, and the decided line of conduct which such principles as his could not but pursue, no man living perhaps, within an equal circle, ever had fewer open enemies, and more private friends. Wherever he went, affectionate and warm-hearted friends seemed to spring up around him at once, to hail him as almost of a higher order of created beings, and to increase in numbers and in demonstrations of increasing regards. An effect so happy was the result of a most felicitous combination in which sweetness of temper beaming in a countenance which was its most suitable index, seemed to hold a very prominent place. This temper, when combined with such principles, such talent, and such exertions as his, seems to form what the holy Apostle has

distinctly designated the good man, for whom "peradventure some would even dare to die."

"In juxta-position with this very conspicuous feature which disposed him to uniform cheerfulness in himself, and to the promotion of it in others, I would place (what might surprise many) a constantly prevailing and most powerfully operating impression of the vanity of life, and the nearness of every man to his final destination. He ever appeared to me, from the very first of his religious impressions to the last, to have upon his mind a more habitual and realizing impression of the near approach and certainty of future judgment, than most other men. He had less of prospective plan, and looking forward to years to come, than most other men; and was always, though unobtrusively, disposed to that seriousness of view which easily admitted the possibility of that day or that night then passing being his last. This possibility, which others would coldly allow, he would feelingly believe; and where a strong shock would be necessary to impress it vividly upon the minds of others, an apparently trivial incident would suffice for a most operative influence on his own. It was not death, nor any of its circumstances; it was not alarm of dying, for I know not that he ever had any; it was not apprehension of pain or disease, or any violent or lingering mode of dissolution;—it was the moment after death; it was the instant of passing into the presence of his God; it was the 'hour when the Son of Man cometh;' it was 'the swallowing up of time into eternity:' it was the sudden burst upon immortal scenes; it was the instantaneous call to a state to be fixed for ever, be it what it may; it was an awful though adoring apprehension of the unutterable Majesty of the Most High; it was the act of giving account to God; it was something, perhaps, stronger and clearer, than I can state to you, which in an instant, and at any instant, could impart a holy solemnity to his cheerful mind, which could as instantly dispose it to the more direct impulses and acts of religious duties. Thus to him, time and eternity were (if I may so express it) closer together than to most men. To him the veil which hung between them was of thinner texture; the line which separated them of shorter length. Hence, perhaps, he was habitually nearer to his God than many other real Christians; and without a particle of unbecoming levity on the one hand, or of severity and harshness on the other, was at once the humble, the earnest, the energetic minister of Christ."

But, one of the most striking features in Mr. Cotterill's character was his disinterestedness. They who best knew the interior of his mind, and who, during a series of years, had abundant opportunities of discovering its real tendencies, never could perceive the least approach to an undue consideration of himself. On the contrary, he was ever willing to give up his own just rights, if he could thereby contribute to the happiness of others. In the intercourse of social life, tests of character in this respect are of constant recurrence and of various description. Many who may be disinterested in pecuniary concerns, are extremely selfish with regard to their personal gratifications. They will sacrifice their money, but not their ease, their reputation, their feelings, or their opinions. But the disinterestedness of Mr. Cotterill was of a very different order; it extended to *all* those particulars, and plainly proved to those who had any knowledge of him, that he sought "not his own, but the things of Jesus Christ." In public and in private life, the glory of God, and the good of his fellow creatures appeared to be his constant and undivided aim; and though he could have turned aside into the paths of ease and worldly emolument, he deliberately chose the path of labour and comparative poverty. It is evident that these qualities of mind and heart, for which Mr. Cotterill was chiefly distinguished, were peculiarly adapted to give effect to his ministerial instructions. His conduct was uniformly consistent with a remark which he frequently made, that he was always ready to sacrifice *feelings*, but never *principle*.

To those who were not personally acquainted with Mr. Cotterill, the character which has been here given of him may possibly appear partial or exaggerated; but they who know him best, will, it is firmly believed, most clearly acknowledge its faithfulness. Did he then, it may be asked, possess all this excellence without any countervailing defects? It may perhaps be questioned, whether, whilst he was ever ready to attend to the temporal wants of others, he paid all that regard which was necessary to his own worldly circumstances: but, if he did fail here, this did not arise from indolence or self-indulgence; few men were ever more free from these vices. It was the infirmity of human nature, which, in avoiding one error, verged towards another. He had a very strong conviction upon his mind, of the extreme sinfulness of a worldly-minded spirit in a minister of Christ, which made him

shrink from every approach to it. Beyond this it would not be easy to fix upon any thing in his conduct of a questionable nature. Doubtless he partook of that depravity of heart which has spread itself through the whole family of fallen men; and whatever he was, as he himself would have been the first to declare, "he was by the grace of God."

The differences in natural disposition are so great, that the conflict between the two opposing principles of the flesh and spirit which takes place in the heart of every Christian, is far less observable in some characters than in others. But we must not therefore rashly conclude that they have had less to overcome, because their trials and temptations have been of a different nature. Nor should any omit to follow their example on the ground that they do not possess an equally happy temperament of mind. With respect to those virtues which are peculiarly adapted to recommend religion to the world, it is indeed strange that any persons should neglect to exercise them, and yet imagine that they are actuated by a supreme desire to promote the glory of God and the salvation of men. Had there been no express command in Scripture to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things, it would have been included in the law of love; and it is difficult to believe that man sincere in his Christian profession, who alleges any natural disposition whatever as a sufficient excuse for not exhibiting religion in an attractive form. There are so many subordinate motives to impel men to the cultivation of what is amiable and praise-worthy in the sight of their fellow-creatures, that it might have been imagined an apostolic injunction to this effect was unnecessary. But the Spirit of God knew better the backwardness of the human heart to all that is good, even when renewed by Divine grace. St. Paul therefore was taught to urge his beloved converts to the study and practice of the social virtues, by positive precept, by personal example, and by the promise of the Divine favour, and of that blessedness which is inseparable from an intimate communion with the God of peace. "Finally, brethren," he says, "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things which ye have learned and received, and heard, and seen in me, do; and the God of peace shall be with you."

COLLECTS.

CLOSING FORM FOR EACH PRAYER.

First Week.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven; give us day by day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. *Amen.*

Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour, and from the Holy Ghost the Comforter, be unto us this day [night] and for evermore. *Amen.*

Second Week.

Our Father, &c.

The Lord bless us, and keep us! The Lord make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us! The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore! *Amen.*

Third Week.

Our Father, &c.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep us! The Lord mercifully with his favour look upon us! and so fill us with all spiritual benediction and grace, that we may so live together in this life, that, in the world to come, we may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

Fourth Week.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all, this day [night] and for evermore. *Amen.*

FAMILY PRAYERS.

First Week.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O THOU Lord of the Sabbath, who hast set apart this day for thyself, and hast commanded us to keep it holy to thy name, look down upon a family of sinful creatures, assembled together to acknowledge thy goodness in bringing us to see it.

We adore thee for thy patience and forbearance in not dealing with us according to our deserts, nor rewarding us according to our iniquities. And we beseech thee to pour down upon us the abundance of thy grace, that we may rest this day according to thy commandment. Let not thy Sabbath be a weariness to us, but our delight. May we honour thee, by not doing our own ways, nor finding our own pleasure, nor speaking our own words.

Sanctify unto us thy appointed means of grace. Send out thy light and thy truth: let them lead us; let them bring us to thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacle. May we go with the multitude to thy house of prayer, with the voice of joy and praise,

with the multitude that keep holy-day. There may we give thee the glory which is due unto thy name, and worship thee in the beauty of holiness. May we see thy power and thy glory, so as thy servants see them in the sanctuary; and be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.

Grant, O Lord, that the Scriptures, which thou hast caused to be written for our learning, may be applied to our hearts in the demonstration of the Spirit, and of power. May we in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, through a crucified Redeemer.

Hear our prayers, O God, for all thy ministers [especially for *him* whom thou hast set over us;] and endue them with the grace of thy Holy Spirit. Give unto them the spirit of love, and of power, and of a sound mind. Make them able ministers of the New Testament, faithful stewards of thy mysteries. Help them to take heed to themselves and to the doctrine; that so, according to thy promise, they may both save themselves and those who hear them.

We beseech thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all they who do confess thy name, may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love. May

numbers be added to it, every Sabbath-day, of such as shall be saved.

Look in mercy upon such as have hitherto neglected thy Sabbaths. Teach them to improve those that remain; and so to redeem the time which they have lost, that they may be numbered among thy true people.

Remember for good as many as, through sickness, or any other impediment, may be prevented from attending the ordinances of thy house, and the habitation which their soul loveth. Let thy presence be with them in their private meditations, even as with those who shall assemble together in the place where thy honour dwelleth.

We pray thee, also, to have compassion upon those who as yet belong not to thy visible Church.

O thou who art a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel, shine upon the nations which are sitting in darkness, and in the shadow of death. Give the word, that great may be the company of the preachers, who shall go forth into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature. Let nation after nation be converted to the Christian faith, till the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ, and the earth be filled with the knowledge of thy glory, as the waters cover the sea.

Hear, we beseech thee, O heavenly Father, these our imperfect petitions; and answer them

in the multitude of thy tender mercies, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Saviour; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Our Father, &c. The grace of our Lord, &c.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O Lord God of hosts, thou art God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; and beside thee there is none other. Thou art our God, and we will praise thee; thou art our God, and we will exalt thee. We thank thee that thou hast permitted us this day to attend the ordinances of thy house, and to worship thee in the congregation of thy people, with the voice of joy and praise. We praise thee for every opportunity which hath been afforded us of becoming wise unto salvation. We bless thee for casting our lot in a land where the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. We heartily thank thee, O heavenly Father, for giving us thy blessed word, to direct us in the way of life. Let it not be unto us a sealed book, and a dead letter; but open our understandings to understand the Scriptures, that we may believe and obey them to the saving of the soul, Above all, we praise thee for the gift of thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. And we entreat thee, Almighty God, to grant us perfectly to know him to be the way, the truth, and the life; that, under

the guidance of thy Holy Spirit, we may steadfastly walk in the path that leadeth unto life eternal.

But, Oh! gracious Father, we acknowledge and confess our own unworthiness of these great mercies, and manifold abuse of them. We humble ourselves before thee; beseeching thee, of thy great goodness, to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances. Pardon the iniquity of our most holy things; and wash us in the precious blood of our Lord and Saviour. And grant that, however we have fallen short of our duty this day, we may not have attended thy ordinances altogether in vain. Though we are unprofitable servants, do not forsake us. Though we are dull of hearing, and slow of heart to believe, and are not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary, yet mercifully bear with our infirmities, and cast us not away from thy presence. Grant that every Sabbath may be the means of bringing us nearer to thyself, and of making us more meet for the enjoyment of thy glorious kingdom.

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord, in our prayers and supplication for all men. Prosper the labours of thy faithful servants who have this day published the glad tidings of salvation. Give thy blessing to the seed which they have sown, that it may bring forth fruit abundantly. Grant that those who have waited on thee may renew their strength, and be prepared to run, with increased earnestness,

the race that is set before them. Hear the prayers which have been offered up for all estates of men in thy holy Church; and answer them in the multitude of thy tender mercies. Look, with an eye of pity and compassion, on such as have neglected thy ordinances, and profaned thy Sabbaths. Turn them from the error of their ways, and give them repentance unto salvation.

We desire now to commend ourselves, and all who are dear unto us, to the protection of thy good providence. Bless, preserve, and keep us through the perils of the night. And grant us thy peace all the days of our life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MONDAY MORNING.

O Most mighty and merciful God, under the shadow of whose wing we have slept in peace, and are now risen in safety, we humbly approach thee, in the name of thy blessed Son, with the tribute of our morning oblations.

O Lord our God, who is like unto thee, that hast thy dwelling so high, and yet humblest thyself to behold the things that are done, not only in heaven, but on earth; and visitest the sinful children of men with all temporal and spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus? Fill our hearts, with a due sense of thy mercies towards us. Maintain in us, at this time, a special remembrance of what we owe to thee for the Sabbath which is past. We praise

thee for the word of thy salvation; for the ordinances of thy house; and for all the other advantages of thy day of rest. And grant, Lord, that we may diligently improve them. Cause thy power and thy glory, which we have seen in the sanctuary, to rest upon us throughout the week. Help us to show, by our life and conversation, that we are not trusting to a form of godliness, and denying the power thereof. We feel and confess our own weakness. We know that the way of man is not in himself; that it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. Be thou, therefore, our keeper and our defence upon our right hand. By thy special grace preventing us, put into our minds good desires; and, by thy continual help, enable us to bring the same to good effect. Keep us this day without sin. Deliver us from the snares and temptations of the world. Dispose us to make a covenant with our eyes, and to turn them away from beholding vanity. Incline us diligently to take heed to our ways, that we offend not in our tongue. Make us faithful in our several callings. But preserve us from being overcharged with the cares of this life, and save us from a covetous and a worldly spirit. Teach us to set thee always before us, and to be in thy fear all the day long. So that whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, we may do all to the glory of thy great name, that thou in all things mayest be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Save and protect, we earnestly beseech thee, the Church which thou hast purchased with thy blood, scattered throughout the world; especially that part of it which thou hast planted in this favoured land. Send forth among all its members, a more abundant measure of thy grace. Keep them unspotted from the world; and let their conversation in all things be as becometh the Gospel of Christ. Have mercy on those who as yet know not the day of their visitation: particularly on such as thou hast made dear to us. Take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word, and so fetch them home, blessed Lord, to thy flock, that they may be saved through Christ for ever. Remember, with thy most gracious favour, our relations and friends; and give unto them, and unto all others, whatever may be profitable for life and godliness.

Accept, we beseech thee, this our morning sacrifice of prayer and of praise, for the worthiness of thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

MONDAY EVENING.

O Lord God of our salvation, day and night will we cry unto thee. Bow down thine ear, and hear us. Let our prayer come up before thee as ncense, and let the lifting up of our hands be an acceptable evening sacrifice.

We are not worthy, in ourselves, to appear in

thy presence, and implore the smallest blessing at thy hands. For though thou hast nourished and brought us up as children, yet have we sinned and rebelled against thee, O heavenly Father, from our youth up even until now. We have broken thy law, despised thy Gospel, and cast thy words behind us.

But, blessed be thy name, there is forgiveness with thee, and plenteous redemption in thy beloved Son. In him thou art a God of compassion, long-suffering, plenteous in goodness and in truth.

For his sake, therefore, and for thy name's sake, pardon our iniquity; for it is great. Enter not into judgment with thy servants, O Lord; for in thy sight shall no flesh living be justified. But in the midst of judgment remember mercy. Look upon Jesus, thy anointed, and save us from condemnation. May each of us retire to rest, delivered from the burden of guilt, and the bondage of corruption; and translated into the glorious liberty of thy children.

Grant us grace, O God, day by day, to examine our hearts and lives, and so to search and try them, that we may know what manner of spirit we are of. Let not a deceived heart turn us aside. What we know not, do thou teach us. What we know, do thou enable us to practise. Give unto us an enlightened and a tender conscience. Suffer us not to grieve thy Spirit by trifling with sin, and resisting the convictions of our minds. But grant,

that, by thy holy inspiration, we may think those things that are good, and by thy merciful guiding may perform the same.

Hear our prayers also in behalf of mankind in general. May thy blessed Gospel be truly preached and truly received in all places, to the breaking down the kingdoms of sin and death.

Protect and save the land in which we dwell. Bless our rulers whom thy wise providence hath set over us, and direct them in all their doings to the promotion of thy glory and the good of thy Church. Finally, we beseech thee to guide and govern, sanctify and bless those who are faithful in the land, and grant that they may avoid those things which are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O God, whose mercies are renewed to us day by day, we will sing of thy power and grace every morning. Let them give thanks whom thou hast preserved.

But what shall we render unto thee for all the benefits which thou hast done unto us? Our goodness extendeth not to thee. When we have done all, we are unprofitable servants. Our highest praises can add nothing to thy glory, and are alto-

gether unworthy of thy notice. Help us, O Lord, daily to think on thy condescension and grace, in regarding the services of such unworthy creatures, and in continuing thy mercies to the unthankful and the evil. Teach us to know and to feel our exceeding sinfulness in thy sight, that we may be filled with a due sense of all thy mercies. Help us to magnify the riches of thy grace, and exalt the honour of thy name, by humble trust and confidence in the Son of thy love.

And we pray thee, O Lord, that thy power may be great, both in pardoning our sins, and in enabling us to bring forth the fruits of righteousness, which are, by Jesus Christ, to thy praise and glory. Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life.

Our eyes are now directed unto Thee, from whom cometh all our help. Dispose us to enter upon the various duties of this day, with the spirit of those whom thy mercy hath spared, and thy grace hath quickened. Deliver us from spiritual sloth and negligence. Make us active in the discharge of all that lieth before us. Help us to press forward in the way of life, and so to run, that we may obtain the prize of our high calling. Incline and enable us to abound in those good works which thou hast prepared for us to walk in; and, by patient continuance in well-doing to seek for

glory and honour, and immortality; that so, by thy mercy, we may, in the end, obtain eternal life.

Grant also, we pray thee, O Lord, that all who are called Christians, may thus adorn the doctrine of God their Saviour. Bless thy whole Church, and order all things for its increase and prosperity. Sanctify and cleanse it, that it may be a glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing, but that it may be holy, and without blemish.

Pour down thy special blessing on the neighbourhood in which we dwell. Grant that all who profess thy holy name may truly and faithfully serve thee in their various callings and relations.

Lastly, we pray thee to regard with thy favour this family. Look down upon us in mercy. Refresh us abundantly with the dew of thy blessing. May we be followers of thee, as dear children, walking in love, as Christ also loved us, and gave himself for us.

These prayers, for ourselves and others, we humbly offer up to the throne of grace, in the name, and through the mediation of Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Saviour.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Almighty and everlasting God, we desire to close this day with serious reflection and fervent

prayer; and grant that we may be always ready to perform this reasonable service.

Thy merciful kindness is ever more and more toward us. Thou loadest us daily with thy benefits, and givest us richly all things to enjoy. We praise thee for continuing to us our life, with all its comforts; for blessing us in our families, in our persons, and in our friends. Help us to see thy hand, and to own thy providence, in all our concerns; and with all thankfulness of heart, to trace up every stream of earthly comfort to the fountain of eternal love. But chiefly, we bless thee for Jesus Christ, through whom all thy mercies are vouchsafed to us. We adore thee for having delivered him up for us all, that with him also thou mightest freely give us all things.

O Lord our God, who is like unto thee, that pardonest iniquity, and passest by the transgression of thine heritage; that retainest not thine anger for ever, because thou delightest in mercy? Mercifully grant that we may be made partakers of this great salvation. Justify us freely through the redemption that is in him. Though sin hath abounded in us, let thy grace abound much more.

Grant that Christ may be formed in our hearts, the hope of glory; and that, having this blessed hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure. Show unto us all things, in our hearts and lives, which are displeasing in thy sight. Pre-

serve us from every practice, and mortify in us every desire, which would cause thee to withdraw thy presence from us. Make us holy in thought, and word, and deed; abhorring that which is evil, and cleaving to that which is good.

May thy good providence vouchsafe unto us rest and protection this night. Thou, Lord, art our refuge, in whom we do trust. May we abide safely under thy almighty shadow. Let thy truth and faithfulness be our shield and buckler. May no evil befall us, nor any plague come nigh our dwelling. And grant, that thy goodness and mercy may follow us all the days of our life. Be thou our continual ruler and guide; and teach us so to pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal.

With these prayers for ourselves, we offer up our earnest intercessions for our friends, relations, and neighbours, and for all our fellow creatures. We humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men, that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations.

We pray for all who profess and call themselves Christians that they may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of Spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted or distressed; that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them

according to their several necessities. And this we beg, for Jesus Christ's sake, our Lord.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord.

We glorify thy name, that through him thou hast opened a way of access to thyself, and hast set him forth as a propitiation through faith in his blood, that all who believe may be justified from all things. We flee for refuge to lay hold of this hope set before us. Our iniquities are, indeed, gone over our heads as a heavy burden; they are too heavy for us to bear. But we come to thee pleading thy own most gracious declaration, that thou hast no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, but hadst rather that he turn from his evil ways and live. Spare us, therefore, good Lord; and grant that we, whose consciences by sin are accused, by thy merciful pardon may be absolved, through Christ our Lord.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, who has safely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us

in the same with thy mighty power, and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always what is righteous in thy sight.

Bless us as a family. Unite our hearts to fear thy name. Teach us to love one another with a pure heart fervently; to bear each other's burdens; and so to fulfil the law of Christ. Give us grace to be faithful in our several occupations, and to do our duty in that state of life into which it hath pleased thee to call us. Bless us in our social connexions and employments. May our chief companions and friends be such as fear thee. Let all our delight be in the saints that are in the earth, and in such as excel in virtue. Bless us in our necessary dealings with the world. Make us honest in all our concerns. Deliver us from lying lips and from a deceitful tongue; and let integrity and uprightness preserve us. Hold thou up our goings in thy paths, that our footsteps slip not. Enable us to walk wisely towards them that are thine enemies, and to afford them no just occasion to blaspheme. Let the very words of our mouth and the meditations of our heart, be always acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, our strength and our Redeemer.

We humbly pray thee to pour down these blessings upon all men, particularly on our fellow Christians, and on those to whom we are more immediately related.

Give unto them whatever thy infinite wisdom knoweth to be necessary or profitable, both for their temporal and eternal welfare.

Hear us, we beseech thee, O Father of mercies, in these our supplications, for them, and for ourselves. Accept our hearty thanks for all thy goodness towards us; more especially for the protection and refreshment of the past night. And mercifully spare us to meet together in the evening, to renew our prayers and praises, which we offer up in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour; to whom, &c.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

O Lord, thou hast been our refuge from one generation to another. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever the earth and the worlds were made, thou art God from everlasting, and world without end.

Upon thy mercy-seat in the heavens thou waitest to be gracious; and we, thy sinful creatures, draw nigh unto thee, as unto a God in Christ, reconciling the world unto thyself, not imputing their trespasses unto them.

We bless thee, O Lord, that though we have sinned, we have an Advocate with thee, Jesus Christ the righteous, who is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world.

We pray thee, to create and make in us new and contrite hearts; that we, worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness. Grant us, according to the riches of thy glory, to be strengthened with might, by thy Spirit, in the inner man. Let Christ dwell in our hearts by faith, that, being rooted and grounded in love, we may be able to comprehend, with all saints, what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that we may be filled with all the fulness of thee our God.

Thou hast brought and defended us, O heavenly Father, through the dangers of another day; and hast blessed us with every needful blessing, in our going out and coming in. But, we beseech thee, O God, to touch our hearts with the solemn and affecting truth, that we know not what shall be on the morrow. Keep us constantly mindful, that in the midst of life we are in death. Of whom may we seek for succour but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased? Yet, O Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Saviour, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Give ear, O Lord, to our prayers for our fellow creatures. Put the ungodly in fear, that they may know themselves to be but men. Incline them

seriously to think on their ways, and turn their feet unto thy testimonies. Let all those who trust in thee rejoice; because their redemption draweth nigh.

Be gracious unto such as, in this transitory world, are suffering, either for their sins or for righteousness' sake; and sanctify their sufferings to the good of their souls.

Look with compassion on all whom the sorrows of death are encompassing about. We commend their souls into thy hands, as into the hands of a faithful Creator and most merciful Saviour; humbly beseeching thee, that they may be precious in thy sight. Wash them in the blood of that spotless Lamb that was slain to take away the sins of the world, that they may be presented pure and without spot before thee.

And teach us in every daily spectacle of mortality, to remember how frail and uncertain our own condition is; and so to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. And all this we ask for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake: to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Almighty, everlasting Lord, the faithful and the true God, who keepest thy appointed covenant, that day and night shall not fail; we adore thee for thy unchangeableness and truth, and we

acknowledge with shame our own ingratitude and unfaithfulness. Thou hast commanded us to renounce the devil and all his works, the pomps and vanities of this wicked world, and all the sinful lusts of the flesh; to believe all the articles of the Christian faith; to keep thy holy will and commandments, and to walk in the same all the days of our life.

But, O God, we confess that we have forfeited, by our manifold sins, all the great and glorious privileges of thy gospel, and thou mightest justly refuse to be entreated of by us.

But thou art God, and not man. Thou, Lord, art good, ready to forgive; plenteous in mercy to all that call upon thee in the name of thy beloved Son. Yea, before we call, thou art willing to answer; and, while we are yet speaking, thou wilt hear.

Have mercy upon us, therefore, Almighty Father; and, though we are unworthy, in ourselves, to be numbered with thy children, yet, for the worthiness of thy Son, we pray thee, admit us into thy family. Heal our backslidings, receive us graciously, forgive us freely, and let thy righteous anger be turned away.

Enable us, in thy strength, to join ourselves to thee, in a perpetual covenant, that shall never be forgotten; to follow the example of our Saviour Christ, and to be made like unto him; that, as he died and rose again for us, so we may die to sin,

and rise again unto righteousness; continually mortifying all our evil and corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living.

Thou knowest, Lord, how many there are who rise up against us. We wrestle not only against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers; against the rulers of the darkness of this world; against spiritual wickedness in high places.

To whom should we flee for help, but unto thee, O thou Captain of our salvation, who hast triumphed over them openly! There is none other that fighteth for us but only thou, O God. We beseech thee, therefore, Almighty Lord, that, by thy power, we may be defended against all our enemies.

Grant that the old Adam may be so buried, that the new man may be raised up in us. Grant that all carnal affections may die in us; and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in us.

Grant that we may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. Grant that we may be endued with all heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live and govern all things, world without end.

Hear our prayers, O Lord of hosts, for all mankind; more especially for the whole state of Christ's Church militant here on earth.

Bless all who have been admitted into the fel-

lowship of Christ's religion. Enable them to war a good warfare, to fight manfully the fight of faith, and to endure hardness, as good soldiers of Christ Jesus. Clothe them with thy whole armour, O God. Gird them with strength unto the battle; and let all their enemies flee before them. Keep them as the apple of thine eye: hide them under the shadow of thy wings, from the ungodly that trouble them, and from all those that compass them round about to take away their souls.

May it please thee to strengthen such as do stand, and to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those that fall, and finally to beat down Satan under their feet.

Grant these our requests, O merciful Father, for the honour of our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O most great and glorious Lord God, who shall not fear thee, and glorify thy name? Thou art the dreadful and the jealous God, against whose divine Majesty all our sins have been committed. By evil thoughts and idle words, by leaving undone what we ought to do, and by doing what we ought not to do, we have failed continually in our duty to thee, to our neighbour, and to ourselves. Thy law is spiritual; but we are by nature carnal, sold under sin. We often do that which we allow not; that which we would, we do not; and that which

we hate, we do. Even when we would most delight in thy law, after the inner man, we feel another law in our members, warring against the law of our minds, and striving to bring us into captivity to the law of sin, which is in our members. We confess, most righteous Lord, that our hearts are deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, and that in our flesh dwelleth no good thing. We are unclean, Lord, we are unclean, and thou mightest justly regard us with abhorrence.

But, to whom should we go but unto thee, who alone givest medicine to heal our sickness? Mercifully with thy favour look upon us, for the worthiness of thy only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, through whom alone we seek all spiritual blessings at thy hands. Speak the word only, and thy servants shall be healed. From all our pollutions, do thou cleanse us in his most precious blood. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew right spirits within us. Grant that the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus may make us free from the law of sin and death, and may deliver us from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of thy children.

Have mercy, O Lord, on all who partake of our sins and infirmities. Support and comfort those who see and lament the evil of their hearts and lives; who feel the flesh lusting against the spirit, and the spirit against the flesh, and cannot do the things that they would. Be not thou far from them,

O Lord. Thou art their succour, haste thee to help them. Enable them to crucify the old man, and to bring into subjection the whole body of sin; and finally, give unto them the victory, through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Show also to them that be in error the light of thy truth.

Open the eyes of such as see not the fault and corruption of their nature. Lead those who think that they are rich, and increased with goods, and that they have need of nothing, to confess themselves wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. May they learn to renounce their own righteousness, and submit to the righteousness of God.

Bring all nations to the obedience of faith. Be gracious to thy people Israel; and turn away the captivity of Jacob.

Accept, O heavenly Father, our thanks for the blessings which we have already received. Day by day, we will magnify thee, and every night proclaim thy faithfulness and truth.

To the multitude of thy tender mercies, we commend ourselves, and all for whom we have prayed.

Hear us, good Lord. Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Hear us for thy name sake and deliver us for thy honour.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O THOU God of the families of Israel, and the hope of all the ends of the earth, behold with compassion thy weak and sinful creatures, waiting for thy blessing at the throne of grace.

We do not present our supplications for our righteousness, for we are before Thee in the midst of trespasses and sins, and cannot stand in thy sight because of them. But we bow the knee before Thee, in the name of him whom thou thyself hast made the Lord our righteousness; and through him we pray thee to show us thy mercy, and to grant us thy salvation. Pass by our innumerable transgressions, as though thou hadst not seen them. Remember us with the favour which thou bearest unto thy people, and visit us with thy salvation, that we may see the good of thy chosen, and rejoice in the gladness of thy people, and give thanks with thine inheritance.

May we now go forth to the discharge of our several duties, with thy love shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost. Enable us to feel its constraining influence in all our ways, and to show forth thy praises, who callest us out of darkness into marvellous light. Teach us faithfully to improve our various talents, and continually to occupy with them till thou come. Preserve us from being led away with the error of the wicked. Keep us that we fall not from our steadfastness,

nor make shipwreck of faith and a good conscience.

Dispose us, day by day, to give all diligence to add to our faith virtue, and knowledge, and temperance, and brotherly kindness, and charity. Grant that these, and all other heavenly dispositions, may be in us, and abound, that so we may not be unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Bless us in that state of life in which thy good providence hath placed us. We are troubled, O Lord, about many things, and disquiet ourselves in vain. Give us faith to cast all our care upon thee, who carest for us; believing that thou, who hast not spared thy only Son, but hast delivered him up for us all, wilt, with him, also freely give us all things. Prepare us for the various changes of this mortal life; and lead us, in every visitation, to see thy hand, and submit to thy will. Teach us, in whatever state we are, therewith to be content. May we know how to be abased, and how to abound; every where, and in all things, do thou instruct us both to be full, and to be hungry; both to abound, and to suffer need; and in all the ways of thy good providence to laud and magnify thy holy name.

Have pity, O God of mercy, on the whole world. Extend thy compassions on every side. Bring nigh unto thee, by the blood of the cross, those who are now afar off. Preserve those who

are rich in this world's goods, that they trust not in uncertain riches, but in thee, the living God. Grant that the poor of this world may be rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which thou hast promised to them that love thee. Save and defend all the faithful in Christ Jesus. Comfort the afflicted; succour the tempted; strengthen the weak; instruct the ignorant; and reclaim the wandering. Lastly, we beseech thee to give unto our dear friends, and to all others for whom we wish more especially to pray, that godliness which is profitable unto all things: having the promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come.

These mercies, for them, for us, and for all mankind, we humbly beg in the name, and through the mediation, of Jesus Christ, our most blessed Lord and Saviour.

FRIDAY EVENING.

O THOU Shepherd of Israel, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, mercifully regard us who are now assembled together to commit ourselves to thy care and keeping through this night.

We acknowledge ourselves unworthy of thy protection. Like sheep we have gone astray. We have turned every one to his own way; and thou mightest justly leave us to eat of the fruit thereof, and to be filled with our own devices.

But we flee unto thee, thou good Shepherd, who hast given thy life for the sheep. Surely thou hast borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. Thou wast wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities; and the Lord hath laid upon thee the iniquity of us all. For thine own sake, therefore, we beseech thee to have mercy upon us. Unto thee we look up for guidance, preservation, and strength. Lead us in the paths of righteousness for thy truth's sake. Keep us in the way in which we should go; and guide us with thine eye. Let thy loving-kindness and mercy follow us all the days of our life. When we pass through the valley of the shadow of death, be thou still with us. Let thy rod and staff comfort and support us. And graciously receive us at last into thy heavenly fold; there, with thy people and the sheep of thy pasture, to give thee thanks for ever.

Guide and protect all thy dispersed sheep, in the midst of this naughty world. Mercifully guard them from those who lie in wait to deceive: and particularly from that roaring lion, which goeth about seeking whom he may devour. Gather the lambs in thy arms, and carry them in thy bosom. And grant, that, as one fold under one shepherd, they may learn of thee, who art meek and lowly in heart, to dwell together in peace and love.

O thou who didst come to seek and to save that which was lost, look with an eye of pity upon those who are are still as sheep going astray; es-

pecially on the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Bring them home, blessed Lord, to thy flock, that they may be saved among the remnant of the true Israelites. Impart wisdom and faithfulness unto those who are appointed to watch over thy fold. Let there be none among them who are hirelings, and care not for the sheep. Raise up pastors according to thy heart, who shall seek that which is lost, and bring again that which is driven away, and bind up that which is broken, and strengthen that which is weak. May they take heed to themselves, and to all the flock over which the Holy Ghost hath made them overseers, to feed the Church of God, which he purchased with his blood; that when thou, the Chief Shepherd, shalt appear, they may receive, at thy hands, a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

We bless thee, O Lord, for the peace and protection which thou affordest us in this favoured land, and the means of grace which we so abundantly enjoy. Truly thou makest us to lie down in green pastures, and leadest us beside the still waters. Let not our wanderings provoke thee to withdraw thy mercies from us, or to exclude us from the rest that remaineth for thy people. We ask for every blessing through thy merits, O blessed Jesus, thou gracious Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, who art, with the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen.

SATURDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, by whose kind providence the darkness of night is turned to the light of day, look down upon us, thy humble servants, who are assembled together to praise thee for thy goodness, and to implore the continuance of thy fatherly protection.

Surely we are bound to love and serve Thee ever more and more. But we acknowledge, most gracious God, that day testifieth unto day, and night unto night, that thou art good and kind to the unthankful and the evil. Pardon, O Lord, our unworthiness of thy favours, and the coldness of our hearts in proclaiming them. We come before thee in the name of Jesus, the friend of sinners, and our advocate with thee. Through him we have received all our good things; and through him, we beseech thee to continue them to us, unworthy as we are, and ever shall be, of the least of them.

For his sake, also, bestow upon us not only the bounties of thy providence, but the richer blessings of thy grace. Preserve not only our frail bodies from day to day; but, above all, have compassion on our guilty souls, and cheer them with the light of thy countenance. O Lord Jesus Christ, who makest intercession for the

transgressors, maintain our cause at the right hand of the Majesty on high. Plead the efficacy of thine own most precious blood, O thou beloved of the Father, for with thee he is always well pleased.

Eternal Spirit of the Father and of the Son, Author and Giver of life, lead us into all truth. Take of the things of Christ, and show them unto us. Let thy grace distil into our hearts as the early dew, to quicken us in the way of life. Enable us to go forth in thy strength to the duties of our various callings. Put thy fear within us, that we may be kept from offending thee. Give unto us the meekness and gentleness of Christ. Make us Israelites indeed, in whom is no guile. Keep us out of the way of temptation, or support us in the time of trial. Help us to look well to our ways, and to watch over our hearts with holy jealousy. May we be utterly purposed that our mouth shall not offend, showing out of a good conversation our works with meekness of wisdom. Preserve ever in our minds a lively remembrance of that day, when the throne shall be set, and the books shall be opened, and every one of us shall give account of himself to thee. And grant, O thou Judge of men, that, in all our thoughts, words, and works, we may so learn to judge ourselves, that we be not judged of thee, in that great and terrible day.

Be pleased, O God of mercy, to prepare ou

fellow-creatures, as well as ourselves, to stand before the Son of man. We pray particularly for our neighbours, our friends, and our relations. Grant unto them such a measure of thy grace, that they, running the way of thy commandments, may obtain thy gracious promises; and, together with us, may be made partakers of thy heavenly treasures. We pray for all to whom thou hast committed a dispensation of thy Gospel, and the message of reconciliation. O Lord Jesus Christ, who, at thy first coming, didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee, grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that, at thy second coming to judge the world, we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, who hast promised to hear the petitions of them that ask in thy Son's name, mercifully to incline thine ear unto us, who have now made our prayers and supplications unto thee; and grant, that those things which we have faithfully asked according to thy will, may effectually be obtained, to the relief of our necessity, and to the setting forth of thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SATURDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, who, by thy power and goodness, hast preserved us to the evening of this day, accept our thanks for all the blessings of the same; and favourably receive thy unworthy servants, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

We confess, O Lord, that we have not given unto thee that tribute of gratitude and love which is most justly due unto thy name. We have ill requited thee for all thy goodness, as a foolish people and unwise; and have not rendered back unto thee according to the benefits which thou hast done unto us. Though thou art our Father, who hast made us, and established us, and blessed us all our days, yet have we not regarded the wonders which thy hand hath wrought; neither have we kept thy great goodness in remembrance. We have sinned against thee, as rebellious children. And have gone on frowardly in the way of our own heart.

But we present ourselves before thee, laden as we are with the guilt of all the sins of this week, and of our past lives; for thou art long-suffering and of great pity, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin. Pardon us, therefore, O Lord, according to the multitude of thy mercies. Have regard unto him, who knew no sin, and was made a sin-offering for us, that we might be made thy

righteousness in him. Look upon Jesus, the Son of David, the Son of thy love. Remember his offering, and accept his sacrifice. Turn not away the face of thine Anointed, who, by his own blood, is entered into heaven itself, and now appeareth in thy presence for us. Hear us, we pray thee, for his sake, and for the glory of thy name.

Another week of our life is closing; and our last week will soon come. Lord, make us to know our end, and the measure of our days, that we may know how frail we are. Behold, thou hast made our days as it were a span long; and our age is even as nothing in respect of thee. Verily every man living is altogether vanity. May the time that is past suffice us to have spent in sin and forgetfulness of thee; and may we learn to redeem the time that remains.

O merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he were dead; and whosoever liveth, and believeth in him shall not die eternally: we beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that, when we shall depart this life, we may rest in thee; and, at the general resurrection in the last day, may be found an acceptable people in thy sight.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way. Keep

it, we beseech thee, continually in thy true religion; that they who do lean only upon the hope of thy heavenly grace, may evermore be defended by thy mighty power. Pour down thy blessing on the ministers of thy Gospel. May those who are appointed to teach others, be themselves taught of thee. Qualify them, in all things, for the work to which thou hast called them; that they may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and to convince the gain-sayers, and to promote the edification of thy believing people. We pray thee, especially, to be gracious unto the place in which we live; to the Church of which we are members; [to thy servant who ministereth unto us in holy things;] and to all our beloved friends and neighbours.

Keep them and us, by thy mighty power, through the hours of darkness; and fit us all for the sacred employments of the coming Sabbath. And when, at the last, it shall please thee to gather us to our fathers, raise up others in our room, who shall serve thee better than ourselves; that, from generation to generation, thy name may be glorified on the earth, till days and weeks shall be no more for ever.

These things we beg for Jesus Christ's sake; who, with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end.

THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK.

FAMILY PRAYERS.

Second Week.

SUNDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY Lord, in whom we live, and move, and have our being, we bless thy name for preserving us to see another day of sacred rest. We rejoice in the return of this holy Sabbath, on which the Sun of Righteousness hath risen with healing in his wings, to give light to them that sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. O God, let not this light shine in darkness, and the darkness comprehend it not: but let it shine into our hearts, to give us the light of the knowledge of thy glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Enlighten the eyes of our understanding, that we may know what is the hope of our calling, and what the riches of the glory of thine inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of thy power to those who believe.

We look up unto thee, O Lord, from whom all good things do come, for thy blessing on this day, which thou hast set apart for thyself.

Grant that it may be a season of refreshing from thy presence; a day of visitation and mercy to our souls. Shut out from our minds all worldly cares and thoughts; and fill us with all holy desires and meditations; that we may sanctify thee, the Lord God, in our hearts. Go with us to the courts of thy sanctuary; and make us joyful in thy house of prayer. Prepare our minds for the good word of thy grace. Dispose us to receive it with meekness, not as the word of man, but, as it is in truth, thy ingrafted word, which is able to save our souls. Help us to pray with the spirit, and with the understanding also. May we not be of the number of those who draw nigh unto thee with their mouths, and honour thee with their lips, while their heart is far from thee; but make us thy true and faithful worshippers, who worship thee in spirit and in truth; such as thou seekest to glorify thee on earth, and such as thou wilt mercifully receive to glorify thee in thy temple above.

Let a double portion of thy Spirit rest on those whom thou hast appointed to preach the Gospel of thy grace; [especially on *him* who *is* over us in the Lord.] May they study to show themselves approved unto thee, workmen that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, and giving to every one his portion in due season. Make them wise to win souls; and, having turned many unto righteousness, may they themselves shine as the brightness of the firmament, and as the stars, for ever and ever.

Shed abroad abundantly thy heavenly grace on all congregations of Christians; particularly on that which shall assemble with us in thy house of prayer. Awaken the careless; bind up the broken-hearted; strengthen the weak; and build up all thy servants in their most holy faith. We pray, also, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, for the peace of Jerusalem. Grant that there may be no divisions among us. Teach us to speak the same thing, and to be perfectly joined together in the same mind, and in the same judgment; that it may be seen that thou art in the midst of us, the Author, not of confusion, but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

Be likewise pleased, O God of mercy, to give thy Sabbaths as a covenant between thee and all people. Pity and convert those who have them, but improve them not to their own advantage and the honour of thy name. And grant that every return of this hallowed day may be the means of furthering thy glory, and the everlasting salvation of the souls of men.

We beseech thee, O Lord, of thy great goodness, to give heed unto these our prayers for ourselves and others, and hide not thyself from our supplications.

And mercifully hear us, while we further call upon thee in the name and in the words of Him who hath taught and commanded us thus to pray:

Our Father, &c.

SUNDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Creator and Preserver, look down, we beseech thee, on the work of thy hands, and regard with compassion thy sinful creatures, whom thy mercy hath brought in safety to the evening of this sacred day.

We appear in the presence of thy glorious Majesty, desiring to renew the tribute of prayer and thanksgiving which thou hast permitted us to offer in thy holy temple. Be thou in the midst of us, as in the assembly of thy saints, hearing us and answering us in thy tender mercies, for the sake of thy Son, Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Saviour.

We entreat thy fatherly forgiveness of all which thou hast seen amiss in us this day. Pardon us, good Lord, that we have not worshipped thee, served thee, or obeyed thee, as we ought to do. Forgive the wanderings of our minds, the coldness of our hearts, and the unprofitableness of our best services. And grant, we beseech thee, that our sins, negligences, and ignorances, may not provoke thee to withhold good things from us. Suffer not this Sabbath to pass away, without awakening in us more earnest desires after heavenly things. May thy good Spirit keep alive in our hearts the holy flame which has been kindled in the courts of thy sanctuary. May the words which we have

this day heard with our outward ears, through thy grace, be so inwardly ingrafted in all our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honour and praise of thy holy name. Keep us, this night, by thy power and goodness. Let the angel of the covenant watch over our beds, and protect us from all danger. Give unto us, as unto thy beloved, peaceful and refreshing sleep; and grant that we may awake in the morning, strengthened, both in body and soul, for the various duties of the week.

Let our prayers also come up before thee in behalf of our fellow-creatures, and fellow-Christians. O merciful God, who hast made all men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, nor wouldest the death of a sinner, but rather that he should be converted and live, have mercy upon all Jews, Turks, infidels, and heretics: take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word; and so fetch them home, blessed Lord, to thy flock, that they may be saved among the remnant of the true Israelites, and be made one fold under one Shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Regard with thy favour and protection the church which thou hast planted in the earth. Return, we beseech thee, O Lord of hosts; look down from heaven, behold and visit the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch which thou hast made strong for thyself. Give us grace, we earnestly beseech thee, seriously to lament our

unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that as there is but one body and one Spirit, one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may henceforth be all of one heart and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and love, on earth; and, at length, through thy mercy, join in one eternal song of praise and thanksgiving, with the blessed company of saints and angels that are continually before thy throne.

Finally, we beseech thee to receive our praises for the manifold mercies which we have received from thee this day: and grant these requests for ourselves, and for all whom thou hast taught us to love as ourselves, for the honour and praise of thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c.

MONDAY MORNING.

O God, who makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to praise thee, accept our hearty thanksgivings for the blessings of the past night.

We have lain down and slept, and are now assembled together to acknowledge that it is thou only who makest us continually to dwell in safety. Thou art the God of our life: day by day will we direct our prayer unto thee, and look up. Hear us, we beseech thee, in the multitude of thy mer-

cies, in the truth of thy salvatiôn, for the sake of thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Grant, Lord, that the day which is past may shed its hallowed influence on this day, and on all the days of the week. Give us grace to engage in the cares and business of life with fear and trembling, as those who know the deceitfulness of sin, and the weakness of our mortal nature. We acknowledge, O God, that, after former Sabbaths, our vows and resolutions have too often been forgotten, and have passed away like the morning cloud and the early dew. Strengthen, therefore, O Lord, we beseech thee, the holy thoughts and desires which may have been produced in our minds. Enable us to show our sincere gratitude to thee for thy day of rest, by causing our profiting to appear unto all men.

Subdue the workings of our evil hearts. Preserve us from pride and envy, from hatred and malice, from murmurings and disputings, from covetousness and dishonesty, from selfishness and idleness, from unchristian tempers and impure desires, and from all hurtful lusts that war against the soul.

Pardon and correct whatever is sinful in us; strengthen what is weak; confirm what is wavering; supply what is wanting; and make us thoroughly furnished unto every good word and work. Without thee we can do nothing. Direct us, therefore, O Lord, in all our doings with thy

most gracious favour, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name; and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life.

Sanctify, we beseech thee, the means of grace to all those who attended them yesterday. Water the seed which was sown with the dew of thy blessing; that, being received into an honest and good heart, it may bring forth fruit abundantly.

Preserve such as are more especially dear to us, from being overcharged with the cares of this life. May they show by their conduct that they have profited by the ordinances of thy house, and have not received thy grace in vain. Pity and convert those who profess to know thee, but in works deny thee; and dispose them, in future, to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith they are called. Give thy blessing unto all whom thou hast set over the congregations of thy people; [especially to *him* whom thou hast set over us.] Strengthen their hands, and comfort their hearts. Keep them steadfast in the faith of Christ, and zealous in the cause of thee, their God: and may they, and we, and all thy people, be accepted of thee at the last, through the full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction of the same Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

MONDAY EVENING.

Most merciful God and Father, who hast safely preserved us through another day, and loaded us with thy benefits, we are assembled together to acknowledge thy overruling providence, which ordereth all things in heaven and in earth; and to render thee our hearty thanks for still holding our souls in life. We confess that we have forfeited, by our manifold transgressions, thy fatherly protection in the present life, and have rendered ourselves altogether unworthy of the blessings of the life that is to come.

But, notwithstanding our guilt and unworthiness, we would look up to thee in the name of that Mediator, through whose all-prevailing merits we may yet have boldness to come into thy presence. Though thou hearest not sinners for their own sake, yet him thou hearest always.

Now, therefore, O Lord our God, hearken to the prayers of thy humble servants. Mercifully regard us, while we draw nigh by that new and living way which is consecrated for us through his blood, not presenting ourselves before thee for our righteousness, but for thy manifold and great mercies in Christ Jesus. Enter not into judgment with thy servants for having so little profited by the many privileges of thy Sabbath, and for not having manifested more of the power of thy ordinances in the duties of the past day. Pardon our want of love to thee, and our undue

love of this present world. Truly our soul too much cleaveth to the dust. Quicken thou us, O Lord, according to thy word, and let the love of thee only rule and direct our hearts. Forgive, also, our many offences against our neighbour; and help us in future to do unto others as we would they should do unto us.

O Lord, who hast taught us that all our doings, without charity, are nothing worth, send thy Holy Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues; without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee. Let not the sun ever go down or rise upon our wrath, but give us more of that spirit which thinketh no evil, which beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things, and disposeth us to cover a multitude of sins. Blot out, likewise, the offences which we daily commit against each other, as members of the same household: and do thou, O God of peace, deliver us from every practice which may prevent our dwelling together as brethren, and as heirs together of the grace of life. Enable us to watch over our hearts, that we be not easily provoked, except unto love, and to good works. Remove wickedness utterly out of our dwelling, and from among us. Give us grace to come before thee with clean hands and a pure heart; and let no secret or open abominations prevent our prayers from being accepted by thee.

And now, O Lord, before we lie down and take our rest, suffer us to commend, not only ourselves, but all others, to thy covenanted mercies in Christ Jesus. Look in compassion on a fallen world. Turn sinners from the error of their ways. Look, also, upon thy Church and people. Pardon and heal our many divisions; and teach Christians to love one another, even as they are loved of thee. Comfort all who mourn, particularly those who mourn for sin. Give unto them everlasting consolation, and good hope through grace. Shed abundantly, thy blessing on those among whom we dwell, and with whom we are more nearly connected. Take us and them under thy fatherly protection; and bless and keep us this night, and for evermore, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O God, who causest the light to shine out of darkness, and renewest the face of the earth which thou hast made for man; the heavens declare thy glory, and the firmament showeth thy handy work. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night teacheth the knowledge of thy power, thy wisdom, and thy love. We worship, and fall down, and kneel before thee; for thou art the Lord our God; and we are the people of thy

pasture, and the sheep of thy hand. Hear us, while we come into thy presence with thanksgiving, and with the voice of supplication; for we come in the name of thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer.

We praise thee, O Father Almighty, for the many and undeserved comforts which thou hast provided for us in this mortal life. But, chiefly, we laud and magnify thy name for the prospect of that better world which thou hast revealed to us, where the sun doth not shine for a light by day, nor the moon and stars for a light by night; but thou thyself art the light thereof, and the glory of the Lamb doth shine upon it. Prepare us, O Lord, for that world of honour and immortality. Create in us those heavenly desires and dispositions, which will fit us for the society and enjoyments of thy holy angels, and the spirits of just men made perfect. Put away from us all anger, wrath, malice, pride, envy, uncleanness, inordinate affection, and evil concupiscence, which is idolatry. Clothe us with meekness, gentleness, humility, charity, kindness, purity. Grant that, as obedient children, we may not fashion ourselves according to the former lusts in our ignorance; but as thou who hast called us art holy, so may we be holy in all manner of conversation and godliness.

We look up unto thee this morning for thy pardoning mercy and thy sanctifying grace. As thou hast raised our bodies from sleep, so raise our

souls from their spiritual slumbers. Dispose us more earnestly to seek thy kingdom and righteousness. Stir us up to the great work that lieth before us, and quicken us daily in the way of thy commandments. Let not the pomps and vanities of this world draw us aside, and beguile us into lukewarmness of spirit. But make us sober and vigilant against all the enemies of our salvation; especially against our adversary, the devil. Enable us to resist him steadfast in the faith, nor ever suffer him to get advantage over us.

Bestow these blessings, we humbly beseech thee, on all who partake of our common nature. Teach thy ways unto the wicked, and lead them to consider that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of heaven. Bless thy faithful people, and make them daily more meet for the inheritance of the saints in light. Remember those who are in any kind of trouble. Make them thereby partakers of thy holiness; and comfort their hearts with the sure and certain hope of that blessed world, in which thou wilt wipe away all tears from their eyes. Fulfil now, O Lord, these our petitions, for the honour and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O God, who art nigh unto such as call upon thee, yea, all such as call upon thee faithfully;

we beseech thee favourably to receive the prayers of thy humble servants. Look down upon us, O Lord, in thy wonted compassion; not in thy anger, lest thou bring us to nothing.

We trust entirely to thy promises made to us in the Gospel of thy beloved Son. We depend alone on the loving-kindness of God our Saviour. Not by works of righteousness which we have done—but according to thy mercy, do we hope to be saved, by the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost; which we pray thee to shed upon us abundantly, through Jesus Christ. Grant, that being justified by his grace, we may be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Teach us, day by day, to search and examine our consciences; yea, do thou, O Lord, who searchest the heart and triest the reins of the children of men, so prove and try us, that we may see whether there be any way of wickedness in us, and may be led in the way everlasting. We acknowledge our proneness to turn aside continually from the path of righteousness. We are wavering and unstable in all our ways, and our own strength is perfect weakness. Do thou, therefore, place underneath us thy everlasting arms, that in thy strength we may be strong. For as much as without thee we are not able to please thee, let thy Holy Spirit, in all things, direct and rule our hearts.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to receive the tribute of our

thanks for the many and great mercies, which thou hast hitherto poured out upon us; especially for bringing life and immortality to light by the Gospel. We desire, above all things, to give thee most humble and hearty thanks for the redemption of the world, by the death and passion of our Saviour Christ, both God and man. May we always remember the exceeding great love of our Master and only Saviour Jesus Christ, thus dying for us, and the innumerable benefits which, by his precious blood-shedding, he hath obtained for us. May we give unto thee, as we are most bounden, continual thanks; submitting ourselves wholly to thy holy will and pleasure, and studying to serve thee, in true holiness and righteousness, all the days of our life.

Mercifully hear us, in behalf of those for whom thou hast commanded us to pray. Let thy blessing rest upon thy people whom thou hast set apart for thyself. And if their names are cast out as evil, and they are reproached for righteousness' sake, save them from those that persecute them, and deliver them. Remember thy mercy and truth towards the house of Israel; and let all the ends of the world see thy salvation. Regard with compassion our favoured land; and let not our many offences provoke thee to depart from us. Most heartily we beseech thee with thy favour to behold our rulers; and so replenish them with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that they may alway in-

cline to thy will, and walk in thy ways. Be gracious to our neighbours, friends, and kindred. Bless them in their persons, in their families, and in their substance. Above all, bless them in their souls; and grant them thy peace all the days of their life. O Lord, we beseech thee mercifully to hear us; and grant that we to whom thou hast given a hearty desire to pray, may, by thy mighty aid, be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities, this night and for evermore, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

O God, who givest to all men liberally, and upbraidest not, we, thy sinful and helpless creatures, draw nigh unto thee, humbly relying on thy grace and mercy in Christ Jesus.

Thou hast taught us to believe, that, guilty and weak as we are in ourselves, in thee, the Lord Jehovah, we may have everlasting righteousness and strength. We bless thee for having found out a way of salvation for us, miserable sinners. We praise thee for adding to the number of our days, and for giving us fresh opportunities of imploring thy fatherly forgiveness. And we beseech thee to grant that we may duly improve them. Teach us to consider this life as the only season of preparation for another. Suffer us not to waste it in unprofitableness and vanity, and graciously con-

tinue it to us, till the work is finished which thou hast given us to do. Take away from us the spirit of slumber, and quicken us to greater diligence and activity. For as much as the night is far spent, and the day is at hand, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and to put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that, in the last day, when he shall come again, in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal. Make us to count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord. And dispose us gladly to suffer the loss of all things, that we may win Christ, and be found in him, not having our own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, if by any means we may attain to the resurrection of the just. O Lord, raise up thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us, through the satisfaction of thy Son, our Lord. Enable us, from day to day, to forget the things that are behind, and to reach forth to those that are before, that so we may press toward the mark, for the prize of our high calling in Christ Jesus.

Defend us, O Lord, from day to day, with thy

heavenly grace, that we may continue thine for ever, and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until we come unto thy everlasting kingdom. Strengthen us in every conflict with the enemies of our souls, and comfort our hearts with the full assurance of hope that they shall not finally prevail against us. Grant that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, may be able to separate us from thy love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Bless all who are travelling with us in the way of life. Direct their steps in all things, and make their path as the shining light, which shineth more and more unto the perfect day. Establish their hearts unblameable before thee in holiness, till the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints. Pitifully behold the sorrows of those who are walking in darkness, and have no light. Bring them by a way that they know not; lead them in paths that they have not known; make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. Quicken, in the path of righteousness, all such as are turning aside from it, and uphold them by thy free Spirit. We pray thee, further, in behalf of those who are going forward in the broad road of destruction. Turn their feet into the narrow way that leadeth to eternal life, and give them grace to continue in the same.

We beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty to be our defence against all our enemies, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Great and glorious Lord God, whose eyes are in every place, beholding the evil and the good, help us to worship and serve thee acceptably, with reverence and godly fear. Thou art here and every where present, and knowest all things. Thou art about our path, and about our bed, and spiest out all our ways. There is not a word of our mouth, or a thought and intent of our hearts, but thou, O God, knowest it altogether. If we say, peradventure the darkness shall cover us, then shall our night be turned into day. Our sins are all naked and open unto thee; the sins for which our own hearts condemn us, and the sins which we may have forgotten, but which thou knowest that we have committed against thee. We cannot deny or justify our transgressions, they are so many and so great; and we might well tremble through fear of them, and be afraid to lift up our eyes to the throne of thy glory.

But though we are thus guilty and evil in thy sight, yet, O Lord, we beseech thee, have mercy upon us. We are sorry and ashamed for all our

misdoings, and bewail the exceeding sinfulness of our sins. For the sake of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Saviour, we beseech thee to forgive us all that is past. We plead the prevailing name of him who loved us, and gave himself for us, that all who believe in him might not perish, but have everlasting life.

And we pray thee to keep us from adding to all our other sins the more heinous guilt of neglecting his great salvation. Suffer us not to crucify thy beloved Son afresh, and put him to open shame; but grant that we may trust in his name, and receive him into our hearts by faith. Enable us to build on that foundation which thou hast laid in Zion, and to remember that other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Christ Jesus. May we receive him as our Prophet, Priest, and King, hearkening to his instructions, submitting to his righteousness, and obeying his commands. As he was manifested to take away our sins, to make us thy children, and heirs of everlasting life; grant that we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure; that, when he shall appear again, with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom. Thou knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that, by reason of the frailty of our nature, we cannot always stand upright. Grant us, therefore, such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations.

Defend us, O God, our preserver, through the night season. When we lie down on our beds, may we commune with our own hearts, and think of all thy goodness towards us. And may we awake in the morning, filled with a due sense of thy mercies, and with sincere purposes of living to thy glory.

Vouchsafe these and all other spiritual mercies to the whole race of mankind. Put thy fear in the hearts of those, who have no fear of thee before their eyes. May they tremble at the thought that thou, O God, seest them, and wilt render unto every one according to his deeds. Keep thy household, the church, in continual godliness; that, through thy protection, it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee, in good works, to the glory of thy name. Bless all Christian families, especially those of our relations and friends. Grant that they may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws to their lives' end. Bless them severally, as they stand in need; and grant them, together with us, to inherit thy everlasting kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O God, thou art our God; early will we seek thee. The desire of our souls is to thee, and to

the remembrance of thy name. We draw nigh unto thee, in the name of Jesus Christ, that true and living way, by which thou hast declared that sinners may have access unto thee. For his sake, therefore, look down upon us and hearken unto our prayer. We desire to pour out our hearts before thee this morning; to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and to obtain forgiveness of the same, by thine infinite goodness and mercy. And we beseech thee, that as many as are here present may approach, with an humble and penitent heart, unto the throne of thy heavenly grace.

We have grievously sinned against thee in thought, and word, and deed. We bewail the fault and corruption of our nature, whereby we are very far gone from original righteousness, and are inclined only to evil continually. We bewail the actual transgressions of our lives, whereby we have broken thy holy law, and provoked thy wrath and indignation against us. But remember us, in our low estate, for thy mercy endureth for ever. We plead the merits and mediation of the Lord Jesus. We fall down at the foot of his cross, and implore forgiveness through him alone. Justify us freely by his blood, and make us partakers of that righteousness which is by faith of Jesus Christ, the free gift of many offences unto justification.

But preserve us, O Lord, from a dead faith.

Not only forgive us our sins, but cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Keep it in our hearts to live, this day, as those who have been redeemed by thy mercy. Turn us from the practice and love of all sin, to the practice and love of righteousness. Make us more obedient to thy word, more conformed to thy image, and more devoted to thy glory. Make us such as thou wouldest have us to be, in all holy conversation and godliness, that we may stand perfect and complete in all thy will, O God.

May we love thee with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul, and with all our strength; and also faithfully perform our duty to ourselves and to our fellow-creatures. Give us grace to love our neighbours as ourselves, and to do unto all men as we would they should do unto us; and to discharge our duty in that state of life unto which it hath pleased thee to call us. And while we are diligently employed in our several stations, deliver us from all sinful anxiety about the affairs of this present life. May we be careful for nothing; but in every thing, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, make our requests known unto thee. And may thy peace, which passeth all understanding, continually keep our hearts and minds, through Christ Jesus.

Be pleased, O Lord, to accept our thanks for all the bounties of thy providence and grace. Blessed be thy name for the sleep and refresh-

ment of the past night, for the health with which we are favoured, and for all our personal and domestic comforts. But, chiefly, we adore thee for Jesus Christ, and for the hope of eternal salvation through him. Thanks be unto thee for thy unspeakable gift. Unto thee, who hast done, and art yet able to do for us, exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think, unto thee be everlasting glory by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Hear us, O heavenly Father, in these our prayers and thanksgivings, which we desire to conclude with fervent supplications for our fellow creatures, and more especially for all our fellow Christians, through Jesus Christ our Lord; in whose name and words we sum up our own wants, and the wants of all mankind, saying,

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

THURSDAY EVENING.

O THOU high and lofty One, that inhabitest eternity, whose name is holy, we humble ourselves before thy glorious Majesty. Thou art greatly to be feared; and who may stand in thy sight when thou art angry? Teach us, at all times, to tremble at that wrath which thou hast revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men; and let not our portion be with the wicked, in that place where there is weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth. We do, indeed, justly deserve thy wrath

and indignation; and, if thou shouldest deal with us according to our iniquities, we could have no hope of escaping thy righteous judgment. But, blessed be thy name for the hope set before us in the Gospel; for the gift of him who died for our sins, the just for the unjust, to bring us unto thee. Grant that, being justified by his blood, we may be saved from wrath through him. Give unto us true repentance towards thee, and lively faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ.

We feel that we have no power to turn and prepare our own hearts except through thy grace preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have it. Turn thou us, therefore, O Lord, and so we shall be turned. Be favourable, O Lord, be favourable to thy people, who turn unto thee; for thou art a God full of compassion, long-suffering, and of great pity. Thou sparest when we deserve punishment; and, in thy wrath, thou thinkest upon mercy. Spare thy people, good Lord, spare them; and let not thy heritage be brought to confusion. Hear us, O God, for thy mercy is great; and, after the multitude of thy mercies, look upon us, and blot out our offences.

Deliver us, we beseech thee, O heavenly Father, not only from the wrath to come, but also from the evils of this present life. Under the shadow of thy wing may we find shelter, till every calamity be overpast. Grant, if it be

agreeable to thy will, that the voice of joy and health may be heard in our habitation; and that no plague may come nigh us, or our dwelling. Or, shouldest thou think fit to correct us, may we find that it is good for us to be afflicted; and that thou of very faithfulness, hast caused us to be in trouble. For thou, Lord, art good; a strong hold in the day of trouble; and thou knowest them that trust in thee.

Especially preserve us, this night, from the perils of darkness. Guard us from the assaults of ungodly men, from the approach of evil spirits, and from the wicked imaginations of our own hearts. Bless us in our lying down; and refresh our bodies with sleep. Bless us in our rising up; and prepare us for the duties of another day, if we are permitted to see one; and may we lie down on our beds with a good hope, through grace, that if our eyes should be closed this night in the sleep of death, we may rest in Jesus, and awake at last, to a joyful resurrection.

May it please thee to grant these and all other blessings unto our fellow-creatures. Be merciful unto all the nations of the earth. Make them nations fearing thee and working righteousness: and pour down upon them the spirit of unity and concord. Be especially merciful unto our own land. Cast thy bright beams of light upon the Church, that it being enlightened by the doctrine of thy blessed word, may so walk in the light of thy

truth, that it may at length attain to the light of everlasting life. Endue thy ministers with righteousness, and make thy chosen people joyful. Preserve the rich and prosperous from forgetting thee, and make them partakers of thy heavenly treasures. Incline their hearts unto thy testimonies, and not unto covetousness. In all time of their prosperity, good Lord, deliver them. Have mercy on the poor and afflicted, and be a very present help to them in their distress. In all time of their tribulation, good Lord, deliver them. Be gracious unto thy dying servants: in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, good Lord, deliver them.

Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, for the sake of him who died for us, and rose again, and liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

FRIDAY MORNING.

O God, our Refuge and Portion in the land of the living, our Light in darkness, our Life in death, hear us, we beseech thee, while we pour out before thee the voice of praise and thanksgiving.

Thy word formed us out of the dust of the earth; and thy Spirit breathed into our nostrils the breath of life. Thou, O Lord, art our Father; and we are all the work of thy hand. In thee we still live, and move, and have our being. By thee

we have been upholden ever since we were born. Thou hast protected us during the past night, and hast brought us to meet together in health and peace, the living monuments of thy sparing mercy and providential care.

But thou hast done greater things than these, which call for our gratitude and praise. Thou hast sent thy only Son into the world to redeem us from sin and everlasting death. How great is thy goodness which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee, which thou hast prepared for them that trust in thee! With thy own arm thou hast wrought out salvation for us, O God, our Redeemer. Our souls bless thee, O Lord; and all that is within us doth bless thy holy name. Our souls bless thee, O Lord, and forget not all thy benefits; who forgivest all our sins, and healest all our infirmities; who savest our life from destruction, and crownest us with loving-kindness and tender mercies. We will bless thee at all times. Thy praise shall be ever in our mouths. We will magnify thee with the voice of thanksgiving, and exalt thy name together.

But thou requirest us to glorify thee, not only with our lips, but in our lives. Help us thus to glorify thee this day. Put thy fear within us, that we may not depart from thee. Make us to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein is our desire. Give us understanding, that we may keep thy law; yea, that we may keep it with our whole

heart. O that our ways were made so direct, that we might keep thy statutes always! May we hear a word behind us, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when we are inclined to turn aside, to the right hand, or to the left. Give us wisdom and grace to honour thee by uprightness and fidelity in all our ways. Preserve us from unchristian tempers and pursuits; from the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life. May we exercise ourselves to have always a conscience void of offence towards thee, and towards men.

O God, we beseech thee mercifully to regard the whole human race, whom the same hand hath formed with ourselves, the same providence preserved, and the same mercy hath redeemed. Look in compassion upon this our land. Guide and defend our rulers. Endue them plenteously with heavenly gifts; and grant that, after this life, they may attain everlasting joy and felicity, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Bless the Congress of these United States. Direct and prosper all their consultations to the advancement of thy glory, the good of thy church, the safety, honour, and welfare of thy people; that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavours, upon the best and surest foundations; that peace and happiness, truth and justice, religion and piety, may be established among us for all generations. We ask all, through Jesus Christ our Lord; in whose name and words we pray:—

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

FRIDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY God, whose ears are ever open to the petitions of thy humble servants, and who hast promised that whatsoever we ask of thee in prayer, believing, we shall receive—mercifully with thy favour look upon us.

How great is thy goodness in permitting us to approach thy throne! and how great is our abuse of it! Thou hast commanded us to pray without ceasing; and it is meet and right for us so to do. But we often account thy commandment grievous, and are unwilling to seek thy face. When we appear in thy presence, how little are our hearts affected with the sense of thy majesty and glory; and even in our best estate how small a measure do we feel of holy fervour, and earnest waiting upon thee! We humble ourselves for our want of reverence and godly fear in drawing nigh unto thee. We confess and bewail the iniquity that cleaveth to our daily devotions. We are unprofitable servants; and all our services are nothing worth.

But, we pray thee graciously to accept of them, through the intercession of thy dear Son, whom thou hast appointed to offer the prayers of thy people. Grant that our supplications and thanksgivings may be sprinkled with his most precious blood, which cleanseth from all sin, and so may come up as a memorial before thee, the odour of a sweet smell, acceptable, and well

pleasing in thy sight. Pour down upon us a more abundant measure of grace and supplication; that we may hereafter approach thee with the effectual, fervent prayer of the righteous, which availeth much.

We confess also, O Lord, all our other offences, which we daily commit against thee. But thou knowest them; for they are not hid from thee. We are confounded and ashamed to lift up our faces before thee: for our iniquities are increased over our heads, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens. Remember not against us, the offences of our youth, nor our later transgressions; but, according to thy mercy, remember thou us, for thy goodness' sake, O Lord. For the glory of thy name, turn from us all those evils that we have most righteously deserved; and grant, that, in all our troubles, we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy; and evermore serve thee, in holiness and pureness of living, to thy honour and glory.

O thou who declarest thyself to be no respecter of persons, but freely acceptest all, in every nation, who fear thee, and work righteousness—pitifully behold the nations that have not known thee, and that call not upon thy name. Make them thy people who are not thy people; and them beloved which are not beloved. But, for as much as they cannot call on him in whom they have not believed, nor believe in him of whom they

have not heard, nor hear without a preacher, and none can preach except they be sent, we pray thee, O thou Lord of the harvest, to send forth labourers into the harvest. Shed abundantly thy blessing on all the means which are employed for bringing the Heathen to the knowledge of the truth. Especially strengthen the hands of those in this land, who are labouring to spread abroad the everlasting Gospel of thy Son. May they prosper and increase with the increase of thee, their God. Raise up among us able men, full of the Holy Ghost, of faith, and of wisdom, whom thou mayest appoint as the messengers of the churches, and the glory of Christ. Fill them with tender compassion for the souls of men, and with fervent zeal for thy glory; that, following the example of thy Apostles and Evangelists, they may burn with desire to make known among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ. And grant, O Lord, that thy salvation may run and be glorified, till the sound thereof is gone into all the earth, and its words unto the ends of the world; till the fulness of the Gentiles be brought in, and all Israel be saved; till Jew and Gentile, Greek, and Barbarian, bond and free, become one fold under one Shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

SATURDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, whose mercy is everlasting, and whose truth endureth from generation to generation, favourably with mercy hear our prayers. Thou art willing to be entreated of, by those who approach thee with a lowly and contrite spirit, and wilt fulfil the desires of them that seek thee.

We bless thee, O Lord, for commending thy love to us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us: and we pray thee to make us know, and feel, that there is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we may be saved, but only the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Dispose us, day by day, to flee unto him, as our only refuge from the storm of thy anger. May he always be to us, as a hiding-place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

Grant unto us, O Lord, all needful strength for the duties of this day. Out of the fulness which is in Christ Jesus, supply every want both of body and of soul. With thy mighty hand and stretched-out arm save, and protect us from all evil. Show us thy ways, and teach us thy paths; and may they be to us ways of pleasantness and paths of peace.

Remove the carnal mind, which is enmity against thee; and give us the mind which was in Christ

Jesus. Suffer us not to be conformed unto this world; but transform us by the renewing of our minds, that we may know what is thy good, and acceptable, and perfect will. Preserve us from putting a stumbling-block, or an occasion of falling in our brother's way. And grant that every one of us may strive to please his neighbour, for his good to edification, even as Christ pleased not himself; and may learn not to seek our own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved. Above all, give us sincerity of heart before thee. Keep us from the hypocrisy of those, who desire to appear righteous before men, but whose inward parts are full of wickedness. O thou who knowest our weakness, and art able to make all grace abound towards us, grant that we, having all sufficiency in all things, may abound in every good work; and, building up ourselves in our most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, and watching thereunto with all perseverance, may be kept continually in thy love, daily looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, unto eternal life.

But thou hast taught us, O Lord, to pray for others as well as for ourselves. Be pleased, therefore, to hear our intercessions for them. Let thine eye be upon such as fear thee, and hope in thy mercy: and to those who order their conversation aright, do thou show thy salvation, O God. Look on them who are in heaviness through manifold temptations. What time they are afraid,

let them put their trust in thee. And may it please thee, O Lord, who hast thyself suffered, being tempted, to succour them also that are tempted. Have mercy, likewise, O heavenly Father, upon those who have hitherto trodden under foot thy beloved Son, and are doing despite to the Spirit of grace.

Have compassion also on those who have fallen away from their steadfastness: may they remember from whence they are fallen, and repent, and do their first works; and, hereafter, have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

SATURDAY EVENING.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who is like unto thee, glorious in holiness? The heavens are not pure in thy sight, and thou chargest thy angels with folly. How then shall we come into thy presence, who are a seed of evil-doers? Our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and testify against us. We humble ourselves in thy sight for all our iniquities, and particularly for those which we have committed during the past week. We are sorry and ashamed that we have had thy glory so little before our eyes. We have sinned against thee, our neighbour, and ourselves. By leaving undone what thou hast commanded

and by doing that which thou hast forbidden, we have broken thy law, in thought, and word, and deed. If thou shouldst be extreme to mark what we have done amiss, O Lord, who may abide? Lay not, we pray thee, our sins to our charge, but wash them away, in the fountain which thou hast opened for sin and for uncleanness.

And while we pray thee to pardon the sins which we have most grievously committed against thy divine Majesty, be pleased, O thou God of holiness, to give us grace and strength to subdue them. Righteous Father, renew us after thy likeness, in righteousness and true holiness. O God, make clean our hearts within us, and take not thy Holy Spirit from us. And since life is short and uncertain, and every week brings us nearer to the end of all things, enable us to lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth so easily beset us; and to run with patience the race that is set before us. O thou, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men, grant unto us that we may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found.

Keep us, we beseech thee, this night, under the protection of thy good providence. Prepare us, both in body and soul, for the holy duties of the approaching Sabbath. Grant that, as thou

didst rest on the seventh day, after the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the hosts of them, and didst sanctify and bless it, so we may rest from the work of our hands, and from all our earthly cares, to keep the Sabbath of thee our God, both in thy house of prayer, and also in our dwelling.

Almighty and everlasting God, send down upon all thy ministers, and the congregations committed to their charge, the healthful spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Preserve thy church in the unity of the Spirit, and in the bond of peace; and overrule our unhappy divisions to the glory of thy name. As thou hast knit together thine elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, grant us grace so to follow thy blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those unspeakable joys, which thou hast prepared for them that unfeignedly love thee. Remember, with the favour which thou bearest unto thy people, our friends and relations; especially those who remember us in their prayers, and those who desire our prayers for them; and be pleased to hear our petitions for each other, and for all men; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The Lord bless us, &c.

THE END OF THE SECOND WEEK.

FAMILY PRAYERS.

Third Week.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Blessed and glorious God, great in counsel and wonderful in operation, plenteous in goodness and abundant in mercy, how excellent is thy name throughout all the world! Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of thy glory. Yea, thou hast set up thyself above the heavens, and thy glory above all the earth: and thou art exalted far above all blessing and praise.

Though we cannot glorify thee as we ought, nor praise thee as thy holy angels, who excel in strength—we desire to exalt thy name, according to the ability wherewith thou hast blessed us, and to pour out before thee, this morning, the voice of joy and thanksgiving. Glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, that the day-spring from on high hath visited us, and the light of another Sabbath hath dawned upon our souls! This is the day which thou hast made for thyself; we would rejoice and be glad in it. How many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those

things which we see, and have not seen them. Forgive, O Lord, we beseech thee, our past abuse of thy mercies; and teach us in future more diligently to improve them.

Grant, O merciful Father, that we may have grace, whereby we may serve thee acceptably this day. Give unto us that preparation of heart which cometh from thee, and without which all our services will be nothing worth. Dispose us to love the habitation of thy house, and the place where thy honour dwelleth; to go into thy gates with thanksgiving, and into thy courts with praise: to give thanks unto thee, and speak good of thy name. Sow in our hearts the seed of eternal life; and grant that it may bring forth in us the fruits of righteousness. Grant that we may improve not only the ordinances of thy house, but every other advantage of this sacred day to the purpose for which thou hast vouchsafed it. Help us to examine our hearts, to consider our ways, to search thy holy word, to talk of thy wondrous works, and to prepare ourselves for thy kingdom.

We pray thee, also, to pour down upon all who are called Christians, the abundance of thy mercy. Bless, especially, such as shall assemble with us in the courts of thy sanctuary. Do thou graciously rehearse it, when thou writest up thy people, that many were born there, and trained up for their heavenly inheritance. We beseech thee plenteously to endue with heavenly gifts such as

shall stand up in thy name this day; [particularly those, who shall declare thy counsel unto us.] May they preach with all earnestness, as those who stand between the living and the dead, and watch for souls, as they that must give account. And mercifully grant, that as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, until it have watered the earth, and made it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater—so thy word may be, which shall go forth out of their mouths: let it not return unto thee void; but accomplish that which thou pleasest, and prosper in the thing whereunto thou sendest it.

We ask these things, O Lord, in the name, and for the sake, of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate; in whose own words we further pray:

Our Father, &c.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep us! The Lord mercifully with his favour look upon us! and so fill us with all spiritual benediction and grace, that we may so live together in this life, that, in the world to come, we may have life everlasting. Amen.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, King of kings, Lord of lords, who dost from thy throne behold

all the dwellers upon earth, we beseech thee to regard with thy favour this family, whom thy good providence hath preserved to the evening of this sacred day. Mercifully accept our humble thanks for all the blessings which thou hast bestowed upon us. We praise thee, that thou hast vouchsafed to call us to the knowledge of thy grace and faith in thee; and for continuing to bless us with all spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus. Increase this knowledge, and confirm this faith in us evermore: and grant that we may improve our manifold advantages to the good of our souls, and to the glory of thy name.

Forgive, we beseech thee, whatever thou hast seen amiss in us and our services; and deal with us, not according to our merits, but according to thy mercy, O Lord. Think on thy loving-kindnesses which have been ever of old. Look upon us, and be merciful unto us, as thou usest to do unto those that love thy name. Through the blood of thy beloved Son, grant unto us pardon and peace; that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind. May thy holy word, which we have heard, or read, be applied to our hearts in the demonstration of the Spirit, and of power. May it be to us, throughout the week, as a light unto our feet, and a lamp unto our paths. Grant that every Sabbath may be the means of increasing our hungering and thirsting after righteousness, and of making

us more earnest in furthering our own salvation, and the salvation of our fellow-creatures. Assist us by thy grace, that we may come behind in no spiritual gift; but may follow after holiness, godliness, faith, charity, purity, and every good word and work. Sanctify us wholly; and preserve our whole spirit, and soul, and body, blameless, unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hear our prayers for the Universal Church; for all who are sanctified in Christ Jesus; with all who have, in every place, this day, called upon the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, both theirs and ours. We pray, especially, for those with whom we have taken sweet counsel together, or gone to thy house in company. Favourably with mercy regard our country. Save and defend all in authority. Bless those who are endeavouring to promote among us that righteousness which exalteth a nation. We ask thy blessing on all schools and seminaries of sound learning and religious education; that useful knowledge and true religion may continue among us, for all generations. We likewise pray thee, in behalf of all the ministers of thy Gospel, especially those of our own Church. Prosper them in their work of faith, and labour of love. And grant that many may appear as their hope, and joy, and crown of rejoicing, in the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ, at his coming.

Comfort and support all those who are labour-

ing among Heathen nations, and are endeavouring to bring them to the knowledge of the truth. For Zion's sake, let them not hold their peace; and, for Jerusalem's sake, let them not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth; till the Gentiles see thy righteousness, and all the kings of the earth thy glory.

Embrace us, and all whom we love, this night, with the arms of thy mercy; give unto us the blessing of eternal life, and make us partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jesus Christ's sake; in whose name we offer up these and all our petitions to the throne of grace; and in whose words we further call upon thee:

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

MONDAY MORNING.

O God, who hast added to the number of our days, and hast opened our eyes to behold the light of another morning, we beseech thee to look upon us, and to bless us; show us the light of thy countenance, and be merciful unto us.

Dispose us this day to serve thee faithfully, in simplicity and godly sincerity. Grant that the good seed of divine truth, which was sown in our hearts, on thy holy day, may not be choked with the cares, or business, or pleasures of this life.

Water it abundantly with the dew of thy blessing; and cause it to bring forth fruit to perfection. Let us not be forgetful hearers, but doers of thy word; showing ourselves, in all things, a pattern of good works. Constrain us, O merciful Father, to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith we are called, with all lowliness and meekness, with long-suffering, forbearing one another in love; endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Help us to love our neighbour as ourselves; and to do unto all men as we would they should do unto us. May we be jealous over our own hearts, and daily keep them with all diligence, remembering that out of them are the issues of life. Be pleased also, O God, to set a watch about our mouths, and to keep the door of our lips, that no communication may proceed out of them, but that which is good for the use of edifying. And may we always bear in mind, that every idle, as well as every profane word which we shall speak, we must give account thereof in the day of judgment.

Bow down thine ear, O Lord, and hear us, in behalf of others. Pour down the dew of thy blessing on all the congregations of thy people; particularly on that which worshipped with us in thy holy temple, on the day that is past. May they hold fast the form of sound words, in faith and love, which is in Christ Jesus. By well-doing, cause them to put to silence the ignorance

of foolish men; that they, who are of the contrary part, may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of them. And grant, O most gracious God, who art the author of peace, and the lover of concord, that the multitude of those who believe in our days, as in the days of old, may be all of one heart, and of one soul; that there may be no schism in the body of Christ.

We pray thee, also, to bless all the ministers and dispensers of thy holy word and sacraments: [especially thy *servant* whom thou hast appointed to minister unto us.] Give them thy blessing in all their ways. Be with them in all their endeavours to promote the glory of thy name. Let not their labour of love be in vain; but make the weapons of their warfare mighty to the pulling down of the strong holds of sin and Satan; that the wicked may no longer triumph in their wickedness, but be converted from the error of their ways. And hasten, O Lord, the fulfilment of thy word, that, in every nation of the earth, all men shall know thee, from the greatest to the least.

Now unto thee, who art able to keep us from falling, and to present us, faultless, before the presence of thy glory, with exceeding joy, even unto thee, the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, henceforth and for evermore.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

MONDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY God, who alone art able to help our infirmities, pour down upon us the spirit of grace and supplication. Lord, teach us to pray. Enable us so to draw nigh unto thee, that we may not be denied the request of our lips; but may be heard and answered through the merits and mediation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Thy mercy is from everlasting to everlasting, and over all thy works. May it now be shed abundantly upon us, who are assembled together to confess our manifold sins and wickedness, and humbly to implore forgiveness at thy hands. We are, indeed, miserable sinners, and justly deserve to be punished according to the sentence of thy righteous law. But thou dost assure us, that there is no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus, and that he is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth. We beseech thee, therefore, to have mercy upon us, and account us righteous before thee only for his sake. And, as thou hast, of thy great goodness, called us to thy kingdom and glory, enable us, O Lord, to obey thy call. May we be justified freely, and become thy children by adoption and grace: may we be made like the image of thy only begotten Son Jesus Christ; may we walk religiously in all good works; and at length, through thy mercy, attain unto the

kingdom which thou hast promised through the same, thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Glory be unto thee, O heavenly Father, for the blessed hope of eternal life which is set before us. How great is thy goodness which thou hast in store for them that love thee! Who shall not sing praises unto thy name, which is great, wonderful, and holy! Help us to show forth thy loving-kindness every morning, and thy faithfulness every night. Grant that, at the close of every day, thy love may be more abundantly shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, and constrain us more perfectly to show forth thy praise, who hast called us out of darkness into marvellous light. And, whenever it shall please thee to take us hence, prepare us to join the multitude before thy throne, who evermore praise thee, saying, Glory to God in the highest.

To these praises and supplications for ourselves, we would add our hearty intercessions for our fellow creatures. Convince such as are ungodly among us, of all their ungodly deeds, and let thy goodness lead them to repentance. Turn them from their evil ways, that they may live, and not die. Give them to know and to feel that the wages of sin is death; and stir them up to seek the gift of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Look especially on those, whom sin has bowed down for many years, and whom the infirmities of age are encompassing round about. Give them grace

to redeem the time that remains, and to spend the remnant of their days in thy faith and fear. Spare them a little, that they may recover their strength before they depart hence; and deliver them not into the bitter pains of eternal death. We beseech thee, O Lord, to accept this our evening sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving. Receive us, and all for whom we have prayed, and for whom we ought to pray, to thy fatherly protection, this night and for evermore, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, in compassion to our infirmities, has taught us thus to address thee:—

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O God, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness, be ready, we beseech thee, to hear the prayers of thy servants; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully, we may obtain effectually, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We acknowledge our entire and continual dependence upon thy bountiful providence. Our wants are many and great; and we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves. We pray thee, therefore, O Lord God, who art the Giver of all goodness, to send thy grace unto us, that we may worship thee, serve thee, and obey thee, as we ought to do. Give us all things that are needful

both for our bodies and our souls. Be merciful unto us, and forgive us our sins: save and defend us in all dangers, spiritual and bodily: keep us from all sin and wickedness, and from our spiritual enemy, and from everlasting death.

And since thou hast spared us through another night, and brought us together before thy footstool, dispose us to give up ourselves afresh to thee and to thy service, and to join ourselves to thee in a perpetual covenant never to be forgotten. Enable us to go forth to our several employments, remembering that thy vows are upon us, and determined, in thy strength, faithfully to perform the same. Grant that every morning may find our hearts more enlarged, to run the way of thy commandments. May it become more and more the earnest desire of our souls, and the great business of our lives, to work out our salvation with fear and trembling; and do thou, Almighty God, continually work in us both to will and to do of thy good pleasure. Preserve us from being insnared and overcome, by the trials and temptations of a world that lieth in wickedness. May we never be ashamed of thee, or of thy Gospel; but so faithfully confess thee before men, that thou mayest confess us before the angels which are in heaven.

While we implore these great blessings at thy hands, help us to praise thee sincerely for those which we have already received, and are con-

tinually receiving from thee. Many, O Lord God, are the wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward. We cannot reckon them. If we would declare them, they are more than we are able to express. Praised be thy name daily; even thine, O God, who helpest us, and pourest thy benefits upon us. Praised be thy name from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, and from this time forth for evermore.

Hearken, O God, to the voice of our intercession for others. Encompass thy people with blessings on every side, and no good thing do thou withhold from such as walk uprightly. May it please thee to succour, help, and comfort all that are in danger, necessity and tribulation. We pray thee to bless especially our friends, benefactors, and relations. Let thy fatherly hand be ever with them, and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of thy will, that they may in the end obtain everlasting life. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Almighty and everlasting God, through whose merciful kindness we are preserved from day to day, we approach thy throne of grace this evening, in the name of thy beloved Son.

Look down upon us, in mercy, for his sake, who lived for us, and died, and rose again, and sitteth at thy right hand, ever living to make intercession for us. Through him we are encouraged to trust in thee, not only for our preservation, and all the blessings of the present life, but for the pardon of our sins, and the blessings of the life that is to come. May we so believe on his name, that our faith may be counted for righteousness. Receive us graciously—forgive us freely. Blot out from the book of thy remembrance all our transgressions, and let them not be brought forward against us. And grant, O Lord, that we may show ourselves partakers of thy grace, by holding the beginning of our confidence firm unto the end. May we not be of those who draw back unto perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

We look up unto thee, thou compassionate High Priest, who alone art able to keep us from falling. By the mystery of thy holy incarnation; by thy cross and passion; by thy glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Ghost; good Lord, deliver us. Be mercifully touched with the feeling of our infirmities, and remember whereof we are made. Carry on in our souls, from day to day, the work of faith with power. Fill us with the knowledge of thy will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. Strengthen us with might, according to thy glo-

rious power, that we may walk worthy of thee unto all pleasing; being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.

We beseech thee to hear us, O Lord, in behalf of those for whom we ought to pray. Have compassion on the ignorant, and on them that are out of the way. Open their eyes to see that destruction and misery are in their paths; and graciously lead them in the way of peace, which they have not known. Remember those who mourn for sin. Be nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and save such as be of a contrite spirit. Though heaviness endure for a night, let joy come in the morning. Bring back to thy fold all who have wandered from the way of righteousness. Though thou visit their offences with the rod, and their iniquity with scourges, nevertheless thy loving-kindness do not utterly take from them, nor suffer thy truth to fail. O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine heritage. May they continue in the faith, grounded and settled, and not be moved away from the hope of the Gospel. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

We now desire, O heavenly Father, humbly to commend ourselves, and all who belong to us, unto the care of thy good providence. We implore thy protection through the hours of darkness. Watch over us with thy all-seeing eye,

and vouchsafe unto us comfortable sleep. May we dwell safely, and be quiet from fear of evil.

And keep us mindful, O Lord, at the close of every day, that the end of all things is at hand; that we may be sober, and watch unto prayer. Stir us up to work, while it is called to-day, as those who know that the night of death cometh, when we can work no longer.

Grant this for Jesus Christ's sake, in whose words we conclude these our petitions.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Almighty God, we beseech thee mercifully to behold a family of sinful creatures, for whom thy blessed Son was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the cross. Grant, that drawing nigh unto thee in his name, and pleading before thee his most precious blood-shedding, we may be made partakers of the benefits of his passion. Dispose us to receive into our hearts that faithful saying, which is worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Yea, let thy grace be exceeding abundant towards us, in faith and hope which are in him; that, being rooted and grounded therein, we may grow up unto Christ in all things. And may the

blood of him, who through the Eternal Spirit offered himself without spot for our sins, purge our conscience from dead works to serve thee, the living God.

We look up unto thee, O Lord, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth, for thy special protection through this day. Put away from us, we beseech thee, all hurtful things, and give us those things which shall be profitable for us. May we go forth to our several duties with thy blessing upon us, until the evening. And, if it please thee, give us success in our worldly employments. But save us, O Lord, from a worldly mind; from that covetousness, which is idolatry in thy sight; and from all undue anxiety, as to the affairs of the present life. May we take heed to ourselves, and beware lest, at any time, our hearts be overcharged with the cares of this life, and we fall into temptation and a snare.

May the love of Christ constrain us to live not to ourselves, but to him that died for us. Teach us to devise liberal things; and freely to give of such things as we have. Endue us with a spirit of tenderness and compassion for the distresses of all around us; that we may not only rejoice with those that do rejoice, but weep with those that weep. Dispose us thankfully to take every occasion of relieving the bodily and spiritual wants of our fellow-creatures, and of conforming our-

selves to his image, who went about doing good. Make us steadfast and unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord; knowing that our labour shall not be in vain in the Lord. And, when the days of our pilgrimage are drawing to a close, and the time of our departure is at hand, may we each be enabled to look up unto thee in humble confidence, and say, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation.

We beseech thee to hear us in behalf of our fellow-creatures. Regard all who are joined to us in the bonds of kindred, friendship, and society; and join them unto thee in the bonds of thy everlasting covenant. Be merciful to all our enemies, if any such there be, and make them to be at peace with us and with thee: or else do thou teach us not to be overcome of evil, but to overcome evil with good. Remember the Church which thou hast purchased with thy precious blood; and let not the gates of hell prevail against it. Finally, we beseech thee to bless the whole human race; giving them all things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour, and glory, and praise, and thanksgiving, henceforth and for evermore.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but hadst rather that he turn from his wickedness and live, and hast declared and pronounced to thy people, being penitent, the absolution and remission of their sins; we acknowledge our manifold offences, whereby thou art justly displeased. In many things we have all offended thee; in pride, in impenitence, in hardness of heart, in neglect of thy word and the means of grace; in forgetfulness of thee, and in disobedience to the commands of thy dear Son. We are all as an unclean thing; all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and our iniquities, as the wind, have carried us away.

But we pray thee, O Lord, enter not into judgment with thy servants. We are humbled before thee. Remember that we are but dust and ashes. Pardon all our sins; and give unto us true repentance, and thy Holy Spirit; that those things may please thee which we do at this present, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy; so that, at the last, we may come to thy eternal joy. We look unto thee, O Lamb of God, who wast lifted up to draw all men unto thee; and we entreat thee to turn, and look upon us; that, after the example of thy apostle, who went out and wept bitterly, we may mourn, in the bitterness of our souls, for all the evils which we have

done; and may feel that godly sorrow which worketh repentance unto salvation, not to be repented of.

These great mercies, which we have implored for ourselves, be pleased, O God, to extend unto our fellow-creatures. May repentance and remission of sins be preached unto all nations. Cause the wicked to forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto thee, that thou mayest have mercy upon him, and abundantly pardon him. Give thy blessing to the righteous; and with thy favourable kindness defend him, as with a shield. May those who profess to know thee, but in works deny thee, no longer have a name to live, while they are dead before thee. Have compassion upon those who are grown lukewarm in thy service. May they be zealous and repent, and do their first works. Give them the comfort of thy help again; and establish them with thy free Spirit. Look especially on such as are bowed down greatly with their sins; to whom the remembrance of them is grievous, and the burden thereof intolerable. Deliver them from fear of the enemy: lift up the light of thy countenance upon them; and give them thy peace, which passeth all understanding.

We entreat thee, also, to accept our thanks for the blessings which we have hitherto received. We praise thee for the comforts and protection

of the past day; for we are unable to defend ourselves, and unworthy to be defended by thee. We bless thee for providing for us a place of rest by night: for thy beloved Son, when he was upon earth, had not where to lay his head. Thou only art he who makest us continually to dwell in safety. We beseech thee, therefore, to watch over us, and keep us through the hours of darkness. Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy, from day to day; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things that are eternal.

Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

THURSDAY MORNING.

Almighty God, who art the defender of those who fear thee, and call upon thy name, we adore and magnify thee, as the author of all our blessings, and the source of all our happiness.

Thou preservest to us our life and health, our food and raiment, our friends and benefactors, our private and public blessings, the means of grace and the hope of glory. Thou art worthy of our highest adoration, our liveliest gratitude, and our most unfeigned praise.

But wherewithal shall we come before thee? And how shall we give unto thee the honour due

unto thy name? All that we have is unworthy of thy regard; and our best returns serve only to remind us, how gracious thou art in receiving them. Not for our sakes, O Lord, not for our sakes, dost thou continue to bless us from day to day, and to permit us to come into thy presence; but because thou delightest in mercy; and because thou hast respect unto the sacrifice of thy beloved Son, who gave himself a ransom for our souls. For his sake, O Lord, continue to us all our blessings; and be gracious unto us even as thou art wont. Grant that the multitude of thy mercies in Christ Jesus may ever triumph over the multitude of our sins; and that our supplications and praises, stained as they are with imperfection and defilement, may, through his most precious blood-shedding, daily enter with acceptance into thy ears, O Lord of Hosts.

In his all-prevailing name we beseech thee to look down upon us in compassion this morning. As thou hast kept us from the terror by night, and from the pestilence that walketh in darkness, so may it please thee to save us from the arrow that flieth by day, and from the destruction that wasteth at noon. Especially save us from those who lie in wait for our souls. Enable us to pass this day, and all our days, in thy faith and fear. Preserve us, from being overcharged with the cares of this life. Make us humble in prosperity,

and patient and thankful in the time of adversity. Thou hast showed us, O Lord, what is good, and what thou requirest of us. Help us to obey thy commandment, to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thee, our God. And, having received how we ought to walk and please thee, may we abound more and more. Vouchsafe to direct, sanctify, and govern, both our hearts and bodies in the ways of thy laws, and in the works of thy commandments; that through thy most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul.

O thou God of kingdoms, and Lord of heaven and earth, give thy blessing to all nations; especially to that in which thou hast cast our lot. We are, indeed, a sinful people, laden with iniquity; and it is of thy mercies that we have not been consumed. But continue, we pray thee, to spare and bless us: and grant that all thy goodness towards us may lead us to repentance. Be thou our God, and may we be thy people; that all the world may know that thou art our Defender and Almighty Deliverer. Bless the neighbourhood in which we dwell, and the families with whom we are more immediately connected. May they be taught of thee to be kindly affectioned one toward another; and to dwell together in peace and love. And do thou, the God of peace and love, be with them now and evermore.

We further pray thee to shed thy favour and

blessing upon this family. Increase our love to thee, and to each other; and make it our delight thus to meet before thy throne, to offer up our prayers and praises, through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

THURSDAY EVENING.

Almighty and Eternal God, who hast commanded us to worship thee, the Lord our God, and thee only to serve—we acknowledge that this is our reasonable service, and our bounden duty. But we confess, with shame and sorrow, that we have not glorified thee as we ought, and have not given unto thee the honour which is due unto thy name. Though thou hast preserved us from the sin of our forefathers, in bowing down to graven images, yet have we set up our idols in our hearts, and have worshipped and served them more than thee, the only God. We are verily guilty in thy sight; and thou mightest justly answer us according to the multitude of our idols, and refuse to be inquired of by us.

But, O Lord, we beseech thee, let not thy righteous anger fall upon us. Judge us not according to our ways; nor recompense us according to our abominations. Say not of us, "They are joined to idols; let them alone;" but let thine eye pity, and thy hand spare us; and let us find that thou

art the great and wonderful God, who delightest in mercy. Sprinkle us with the blood of Jesus, and we shall be clean. Wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow. Turn us from all secret idolatry of heart; and hereafter let us not serve nor worship any god, except our own God; even thee, the living and the true God. And since of thy only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service, give us grace to believe in thee, to fear thee, and to love thee, with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul, and with all our strength; to worship thee, to give thee thanks, to put our whole trust in thee, to call upon thee, to honour thy holy name and thy word; and to serve thee truly all the days of our life.

With these our prayers, be pleased to accept our hearty thanks for all thy goodness towards us. Though we are so unmindful of thee, thou yet remembersest us from day to day, and pourest upon us the abundance of thy mercy. We bless thy name for all thy gracious dealings towards us. And we pray thee to preserve in our minds such a sense of them, as shall lead us to love thee more, and to serve thee better.

Hear us, O Lord, while we implore this grace and mercy in behalf of our fellow-creatures. Look in pity on those who are still lying in darkness and the shadow of death; and are serving idols of wood and stone, which their own hands have made. Turn them from the error of their ways,

and grant them the knowledge of thyself, and of Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. Pity and convert those who have brought into thy Church dangerous heresies; even denying the Lord who bought them; lest they bring upon themselves swift destruction. Grant that all who know thee not, may acquaint themselves with thee, and be at peace; and that all who know thee may be joyful and glad in thy salvation. Have mercy on the afflicted in mind, body, or estate. Go not from them when trouble is hard at hand, and there is none to help them. Be thou their refuge, who art the hope of all the ends of the earth. And in the multitude of the sorrows which they have in their hearts, let thy comforts refresh their souls.

Mercifully regard our kindred after the flesh, our benefactors, friends, and neighbours. To thy gracious care and protection we commend ourselves and them this night. Preserve us, both outwardly in our bodies, from temporal evils; and, inwardly in our souls, from our spiritual foes. And, when our eyes shall be closed in the darkness of the grave, may we rest in Jesus; and, in the last day, may we be raised from the dead, to die no more, to be made like unto the angels, being thy children, O God, and the children of the resurrection.

O thou, who hearest and answerest prayer, hear us in these our humble petitions for ourselves

and others; and send us an answer of peace, for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

FRIDAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, whose ears are always open to the petitions of thy humble servants, unto thee do we lift up our souls. We would seek thee whilst thou mayest be found; and call upon thee whilst thou art near. Dispose us ever to direct our prayer unto thee, and to look up; and, daily at thy footstool, to wait for thy blessing more than they who watch for the morning. For thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, long-suffering, and plenteous in goodness and truth. Thou hast protected us during the hours of darkness; for the darkness is no darkness with thee. We have slept and awoke, and are still with thee. Whither shall we go from thy Spirit? And whither shall we flee from thy presence? If we ascend up into heaven, thou art there; if we go down to hell, thou art there also. If we should take the wings of the morning, and remain in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there would thy hand lead us, and thy right hand hold us.

We humble ourselves before thee for the sins which thy all-seeing eyes have beheld in the

course of our lives. We confess that our hearts cannot endure, nor our hands be strong, in that day when thou shalt deal with us, if thou deal with us according to our sins. But, we beseech thee, O Lord, deal not thus with thy servants. Blot out the hand-writing that is against us; and take it out of the way, nailing it to the cross of thy beloved Son. Grant unto us redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of thy grace. May we be washed; may we be sanctified; may we be justified, in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by thy Spirit, O Lord God.

Let a sense of thy presence abide with us this day. May we set thee always before us, remembering, that thou, O God, seest us. And since unto thee all hearts are open, all desires known, and from thee no secrets are hid; cleanse, we beseech thee, the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit; that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name. And while we acknowledge thee in all our ways, do thou, in mercy, direct our paths. As thou didst vouchsafe to lead thy people Israel in safety through the wilderness, so be thou mercifully pleased to lead and protect us in the way in which we should go. Stand continually at our right hand, that we may not be moved. Strengthen us with the Holy Ghost, the Comforter; daily increase in us thy manifold gifts of

grace; and fill us, O Lord, with a spirit of thy holy fear, now and evermore.

We beseech thee, also, O Lord, to give unto our fellow-creatures a due reverence of thy holy presence. May the ungodly remember that thou knowest their manifold transgressions; and that there is no darkness, or shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide their heads. May those who have hitherto been deceiving themselves, or others, with vain professions of religion, be brought to see that they cannot deceive thee; and so be led to seek thee in truth and sincerity. Let thy presence comfort and support thy afflicted people: and be a refuge to them in all their troubles. Especially, we pray thee to dwell in the hearts of all who are near and dear to us; and to make them a holy temple in the Lord, the habitation of thy blessed Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Redeemer.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Almighty and immortal God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succour, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead, receive us, as thou hast promised by thy well-beloved Son. Give now unto us that ask; let us that seek, find; open the gate unto us that knock, that we may enjoy the everlasting

benediction of thy heavenly grace, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord.

We draw nigh unto thee in his great name, trusting to thy word, that whosoever believeth in thy beloved Son shall be saved. And we beseech thee to grant, that we may come unto him, this night, weary and heavy laden with the burden of our sins, and find rest to our souls. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so great let thy mercy be towards us. Far as the east is from the west, so far do thou remove our transgressions from us. Yea, like as a father pitieth his children, so do thou, our heavenly Father, pity and have mercy upon us. Adopt us into thy family; take away our guilt; accept our persons; and reconcile us unto thyself, through the blood of thy beloved Son.

We pray thee, also, O Lord, to show unto us more of the evil of sin, that we may know more of thy wonderful grace and mercy in pardoning it; and more of the loving-kindness of God our Saviour, in dying to redeem us from it. O the depths of the riches of thy wisdom, thy knowledge, and thy love! Thou, O God, hast so done thy marvellous works, that they ought to be had in remembrance. Thou hast sent redemption unto thy people; thou hast commanded thy covenant for ever: holy and reverend is thy name. It is a good thing to give thanks unto thee, O

Lord; and to sing praises unto thy name, O thou Most High; to show forth thy loving-kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness in the night.—We give thee humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but, above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. Grant, we beseech thee, that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Vouchsafe, O Lord, to hear our prayers for those whom it is our duty and our desire to remember at the throne of grace. May it please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived. May it please thee to defend and bless all who are in authority; to rule their hearts in thy faith, fear, and love; that they may evermore trust in thee, and seek thy honour and glory. May it please thee to guide and protect our magistrates; that they may be a terror to evil doers, and for the praise of them that do well. May it please thee to illuminate all the ministers of thy blessed Gospel with true knowledge and understanding of thy word; and that, both by their preaching and living, they may set

it forth and show it accordingly. May it please thee to bless the faithful in Christ Jesus, and give them grace to continue faithful unto death. May it please thee to bless the rising generation, especially the generation of those who seek thee, and of our kindred, friends, and neighbours. Grant that as they grow in stature, they may grow in wisdom and in grace, and in favour with God and man. Finally, may it please thee to stand at the right hand of the poor and destitute, and to be unto them a tower of strength against all their enemies.

Grant, O Lord, these our petitions, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty; provoking thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. The remembrance of them is grievous unto us. The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon

us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee, in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Keep us, especially, this day, by thy mighty power. Give us grace to live as thy redeemed people; and to walk in all thy commandments and ordinances blameless. And grant that our love to thee may abound more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that we may approve things that are excellent; that we may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by him, to the praise of thee, our God.

O Lord, open thou our lips, and our mouth shall show forth thy praise. Accept our thanks for all thy mercies, temporal and spiritual. We bless thee for preserving us through the past night, and for refreshing us with necessary sleep: we acknowledge it to be of thy undeserved goodness that we are all here before thee this morning. We bless thee for every opportunity of meeting together before the throne of grace. We praise thee for every increase of spiritual knowledge; for every victory over the enemies of our souls. We adore thee for all the promises of thy word; for all the wonderful instances of thy forbearance towards us; for all the motions of thy good Spirit

in us; for all our past and present comforts, and for all our prospects of future glory. Day by day we magnify thee; and worship thy name ever, world without end.

Hear our intercessions, most gracious Father, for the whole race of man. Have mercy on a world that lieth in wickedness; and stretch forth thy right hand to save it from destruction. Overrule all changes in empires and kingdoms, for the advancement of true religion, and for the furtherance of thy glory. Extend on every side the kingdom of thy Son. Prosper every lawful endeavour for the conversion of Heathen nations. Pour down thy Spirit from on high; that all the ends of the world may remember themselves, and be turned unto thee, O Lord; and that all the kindreds of the nations may worship before thee. Hear us, especially, in behalf of thy ancient people, Israel. Our heart's desire and prayer for them is, that they may be saved.

Hear us, especially, in behalf of these United States. Send forth throughout the land a universal spirit of repentance, that we may return every man from his evil ways, and may amend every man his doings. Increase among us that righteousness which exalteth a nation; and save us from that sin which is the reproach of any people. And may we never, in the pride of our hearts, forget that blessed only is the nation whose God is the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. We

pray for our relations and friends. May their names be found written in the book of life. We pray for our enemies, and for those who may despitefully use us, and persecute us. O thou God of peace, reconcile them unto us, and unto thee.

Hear us, O Lord, in these our supplications and thanksgivings; and do for us, and all for whom we have prayed, more than we are worthy to ask, or able to conceive, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, who hath mercifully taught us thus to pray:—

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

SATURDAY EVENING.

Almighty Lord God, the Father of mercies, the Giver and Preserver of all good things, we humbly beseech thee of thy great goodness, to receive the thank-offerings which we desire now to present on thy altar. We would raise a memorial of thy abundant kindness, and tell out thy works with gladness. We acknowledge that thou hast hitherto wonderfully helped us; and that it is only through thy tender mercies that we have been spared to the evening of this day.

Thy ways towards us have been faithfulness and truth. Thou hast done for us more than we have either desired or deserved; and far more than we are able to express. Who can utter thy mighty acts, O Lord, or show forth all thy praise?

But, though thou art exalted high above all blessing and praise, yet we beseech thee to accept our thanks, such as they are, for the tokens of thy manifold kindness towards us; and help us, in future, to give unto thee more of the glory that is due unto thy name. Grant, Lord, that from the abundance of the heart we may speak thy praise; and that, at the close of every week, we may be found growing in grace, in thankfulness, and in every fruit of the Spirit. Especially may a sense of thy wonderful love in the redemption of our souls, ever abide upon our minds. And since thou hast given thy Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification, grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve thee in pureness of living and truth; and at his second coming to judge the world in righteousness, may be found an acceptable people in thy sight.

But who may abide the day of his coming? And who may stand when he appeareth? We cannot stand, before thee, O Lord, in our own righteousness. We humble ourselves at thy footstool, acknowledging the sins which we have committed against thee, particularly the sins of the week which is now closing. And, we pray thee, most merciful Father, to grant unto us forgiveness of all that is past, through him, who, by thy grace, tasted death for every man. For his sake, cleanse

thou us from all our offences, and grant, that, being justified by his blood, we may be saved from wrath through him.

To thy tender mercies in Christ Jesus we now commit ourselves, and all for whom we should pray. Save and defend us through the night-season. Open our eyes to see the light of another Sabbath; and sanctify it to the good of our souls. Sanctify it, likewise, we humbly beseech thee, to the good of our fellow-creatures. Give unto them every blessing which we have asked for ourselves; and every other of which they may stand in need.

Bless all the ministers of thy word and ordinances, [especially *him* who is set over us in the Lord.] Qualify them for the work to which thou hast called them, and particularly for the duties of thy holy day. Preserve us in the unity of the Spirit, and in the bond of peace. Put away from us strife, and division, and every evil work. Let brotherly love continue and increase. And do thou, the very God of peace, abide with us always. Bless all the members of the universal Church; and grant that such as profess and call themselves Christians may be led in the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Shed abundantly thy grace and mercy on all who are near and dear to us; and make them to be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting. And

as thou hast promised that of the increase and prosperity of thy kingdom there shall be no end, give thy blessing to the means which are employed for its extension throughout the world. Let the time draw near, when the whole earth shall be filled with thy glory; and when every thing that hath breath shall praise thee. Bring to pass that which is written, that in the last days the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it.

Grant these things for the honour of our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. God the Father, &c.

THE END OF THE THIRD WEEK.

FAMILY PRAYERS.

Fourth Week.

SUNDAY MORNING.

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, we bless thee for defending us through the perils and dangers of the week past, and for bringing us in safety to the beginning of this holy day. We thank and praise thee for calling off our thoughts and pursuits from the things of this vain world; and for setting before us the things of a better!

We confess, O God, that we have greatly profaned thy Sabbaths, by doing our own ways, by seeking our own pleasure, and by speaking our own words. And thou mightest justly visit us for our iniquity by causing them altogether to cease among us. But thou art a merciful God, full of compassion, long-suffering, and of great pity; sparing us when we deserve punishment, and in the midst of judgment remembering mercy. We beseech thee, O Lord, still to spare us, and to have mercy upon us. Let the voice of Jesus Christ thy Son, our Saviour, be heard in our be-

half. For his sake, look down upon us, and grant us thy blessing. May we enter upon the duties of this day, as though we knew not but that it may be our last; remembering, that for this and every Sabbath we must render an account in the day of judgment. Keep us, we beseech thee, from all things hurtful; and dispose us to all things profitable to our salvation; that we being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things which thou wouldest have done. And, as without thee we are not able to please thee, mercifully grant that thy Holy Spirit may, in all things, direct and rule our hearts.

O thou, who art greatly to be feared in the assembly of thy saints, prepare us, especially, for the solemnities of thy public worship. May we account a day in thy service better than a thousand passed in forgetfulness of thee; and always be glad when it is said to us, Let us go to the house of the Lord. Thither may we go, this morning, with joyful feet, looking for thy loving-kindness in the midst of thy temple; joining thy people in the praise that awaiteth thee there; praying unto thee in the spirit; hearing and receiving thy word, and faithfully performing our vows.

Give grace, also, unto all who shall this day be gathered together in thy name; that they may worship thee, serve thee, and obey thee as they ought to do. Bless thy ministering servants, whom thou hast appointed to show unto men the

way of salvation; especially those who shall speak to us in thy name. May they not keep back thy loving-kindness and truth from the congregation of thy people; but faithfully declare the whole counsel of thee, their God. Grant that their words may be so heard and received, that they may be able to give account of their people with joy, and not with grief. Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek thee faithfully in thy sacred ordinances. Look in mercy upon such as mourn in Zion. Give unto them beauty for ashes; the oil of joy for mourning; and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. Let those who are hungering and thirsting after righteousness be filled. Let the poor and needy give thanks unto thy name. May thy blessed Gospel still be preached to them; and may they know the joyful sound thereof, and be glad; esteeming it dearer to them than all the treasures of this world. Finally, may it please thee to satisfy all with the plenteousness of thy house, and to suffer none to go empty away.

Grant these, and all our requests, for thy mercy's sake in Christ Jesus, our only Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all, this day [night] and for evermore. Amen.

SUNDAY EVENING.

O God, whose property is ever to have mercy, and to forgive, receive our humble petitions; and though we be bound with the chain of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of thy great mercy loose us, for the honour of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Advocate. We beseech thee, O Lord, to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances, particularly those of the past day. May it please thee to give us true repentance, to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that we may amend our lives according to thy holy word.

Accept, we beseech thee, O Lord, our hearty thanks for the means of grace, which have been vouchsafed us this day; and for every blessing which thou hast bestowed upon us. To thee be ascribed all the good which we have received ourselves, and all which has been wrought in others. We bless thee, in behalf of those who may have been turned from their evil ways, or who have been comforted, instructed, and in any way edified, in thy house of prayer. For these and all thy other mercies, our souls do magnify thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

We further beseech thee, O Father Almighty, to open the ears of thy compassion to our supplications for others. Mercifully look upon the universal Church, which thou hast purchased to thyself with the precious blood of thy dear Son. To

those that shall be ordained to any holy function, give thy grace and heavenly benediction; that, both by their life and doctrine, they may set forth thy glory, and set forward the salvation of all men. Bless the words which have been spoken in thy name this day; and let them not prove to any the savour of death unto death, but of life unto life, to all who have heard them. Be gracious unto thy servants who have met together with us in thy courts: and grant that as many as are planted in the house of the Lord, may flourish in the courts of the house of our God. Have mercy on those by whom the day of rest has been disregarded. Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do. Be favourable, also, unto those who have been kept by sickness, or any other necessity, from joining the public assemblies of thy Church. Be now and evermore their defence, and make them to know and to feel, that there is none other name under heaven whereby they may receive health and salvation, but only the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We give thee hearty thanks, likewise, for such of them as it may have pleased thee this day to deliver out of the miseries of this sinful world; beseeching thee, that it may also please thee, of thy gracious goodness, shortly to accomplish the number of thy elect, and to hasten thy kingdom; that we, with all those that are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect con-

summation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; in whose name we offer up these our prayers; and conclude them in the words which he himself has taught us to use:

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

MONDAY MORNING.

Almighty and most merciful God, the Father of all mercies, we humbly beseech thee to accept the praises and thanksgivings with which we begin this day. Unworthy as we are to offer them, and insufficient as they are to show forth all thy goodness, yet be graciously pleased to receive them, for the sake of him through whom alone they are offered; even for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord.

Day by day will we give thanks unto thee, O God, and speak of all thy marvellous works. Our praise shall be always of thee. We adore and magnify thee for the daily bounties of thy good providence; for our preservation through the night past; and for all the blessings of the present life, by which we are encompassed on every side. But, chiefly, we thank thee for thy unspeakable love in the redemption of our souls. We bless thee for the many and great advantages which were afforded us on the Sabbath which is past; for thy house of prayer; for thy appointed minis-

ters; for thy holy word; and for all other means of grace and salvation.

Help us now to call to our remembrance, and earnestly to take heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. Especially grant, that the sacred influence of thy word and ordinances may be manifested in our lives this day. Knowing that thou canst not be deceived by outward appearances, and requirest the homage of our hearts, may we not trust to a form of godliness, and deny the power thereof; but be faithful and sincere in thy service, keeping our hearts with all diligence, and labouring to bring every thought and intent thereof in captivity to the obedience of Christ.

Dispose us faithfully to perform our duty towards our neighbour. Make us upright in our dealings, providing things honest in the sight of all men; rendering unto all their dues. Put away from us all malice, and guile, and hypocrisies, and all evil-speakings; and grant that, we may put on bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering; forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any. As members of the same household, and heirs together of the grace of life, may we dwell in love one with another; in all things approving ourselves as thy servants; that so, at the last, an entrance may be administered

unto us abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We commend ourselves, O Lord, and all our concerns, into thy hands, as into the hands of a faithful Creator and most merciful Saviour; knowing that thou art able to keep that which we commit unto thee against the great day. Thou, Lord, art our rock, and our fortress, whereunto we will always resort; our deliverer, in whom we do trust; the horn also of our salvation, and our refuge. O Lord, have mercy upon us; let thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in thee. O Lord, in thee have we trusted; let us never be confounded.

We ask these great blessings for ourselves, and for all mankind, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

MONDAY EVENING.

O Almighty and everlasting God, the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, who only hast immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto, whom no man hath seen or can see, fill our minds with a deep sense of thy majesty and glory. How excellent is thy name throughout all the earth! Thy dominion is an everlasting dominion; and thy kingdom endureth from generation to generation.

The day is thine; the night also is thine: for all things serve thee.

Lord, what is man, that thou art so mindful of him; or the son of man, that thou so visitest him? We are all in thy sight as nothing, yea, less than nothing, and vanity: and we have reason each one to cry out, Wo is me, for I am of unclean lips. Thou knowest, O Lord, the pride and the rebellion of our hearts. Heaven and earth both testify against us, and our own conscience also, that we are verily guilty before thee, and altogether without excuse. But, blessed be thy name, that our sins have not withholden from us the blessings of the past day; but that we are brought to the conclusion of it in health and peace.

And now, before we retire to the rest which thou hast provided for our bodies, we earnestly beseech thee to make us partakers of that spiritual rest which thy richer bounty hath provided for our souls. Be merciful unto our unrighteousness; and wash away our sins in the blood of Jesus. Cleanse us from our numerous transgressions, whereby we have transgressed against thee; from our pride and obstinacy; from our hardness of heart, and contempt of thee; from our vain thoughts and idle words; from our unchristian tempers and pursuits; and from all our evil doings, whereby we have provoked thy wrath and indignation against us. Give unto us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments.

Being down every high look and lofty imagination that exalteth itself against thee; and clothe us with the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit. Preserve us from thinking of ourselves more highly, than we ought to think; and dispose us to walk before thee with all gentleness and lowliness of mind. Grant that, on all occasions, we may both perceive and know what things we ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the same. And do thou, O Lord, graciously look upon our infirmities; and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us.

Extend, we beseech thee, the arms of thy compassion beyond the bounds of our own habitation. Look on the sins and miseries of a fallen world. Teach thy ways unto the wicked; and let sinners be converted unto thee. Take all the Heathen unto thine inheritance, and let them know, that thou, whose name is Jehovah, art the Most Highest over all the earth. Regard the various kingdoms of the world; and let wars and fightings among them for ever cease. Suffer none to hurt or destroy in all thy holy mountain; but let the earth be filled with the knowledge of thy glory as the waters cover the sea.

We beseech thee to hear us, in these our prayers, O Lord God: and, of thy great goodness, take us, and all ours, every where, under thy fatherly protection, this night and evermore, through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

TUESDAY MORNING.

O HOLY, blessed, and glorious God, who livest and abidest for ever, we adore thee as the Sovereign Lord of heaven and earth, the Giver and Preserver of all good things. Our voice shalt thou hear, O Lord, every morning; for every morning thy mercies towards us are renewed; great is thy faithfulness and truth. How many of our fellow-creatures, during the past night, have slept the sleep of death, to awake no more till the resurrection in the last day! How many have not found where to lay their heads, or have been victims of pain and anguish. Lord, what are we, that thou shouldest be so mindful of us, and so gracious unto us, in saving our life from destruction, and crowning us with loving-kindness and tender mercies! We confess that thou art the Lord by whom alone we have escaped death. And we beseech thee to grant, that, with our restored strength and capacities, we may give up ourselves afresh to thy service. Stir us up to self-examination and reflection; to watchfulness and prayer. Break through our habits of spiritual sloth and negligence; and teach us the value of time, while yet we are able to improve it. And we earnestly pray thee, O heavenly Father, in whose hands are the issues of life and death, to spare us till the work is finished which thou hast given us to do.

O God, the strength of them that trust in thee, we implore thy special presence and protection through this day; not knowing what a day may bring forth. Be with us in what immediately lies before us. Watch over us for good; and keep us as the apple of thine eye. Make us active in the discharge of present duties. Cleanse us from our most secret faults, and keep us from presumptuous sins. Save us from the corruptions of our own hearts; from the wiles and assaults of the prince of darkness; and from the wicked practices of the world around us. Give us grace to deny ourselves, to take up our cross and to follow Christ. Preserve us, at home and abroad, in public and in private, from every thing that might prove to us an occasion of falling. And since, we can do no good thing without thee, grant us, continually, the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee both in will and deed. Graft in our hearts the love of thy name; increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness; and, of thy great mercy, keep us in the same all the days of our life.

Be pleased, O Lord, to hear our supplications and prayers for our fellow-creatures in general; and especially for such as are exposed to any of those evils from which we are mercifully delivered. Sanctify thy fatherly corrections unto them; and do thou, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort, comfort them in all their tri-

bulations. As their sufferings abound, let their consolations abound also: and the more the outward man decayeth, the more may they be renewed by thy grace and Holy Spirit in the inner man; that so their afflictions may be the means of working out for them a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Hear us, we humbly beseech thee, Almighty God: and as thou hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee, and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy name, thou wilt grant their requests; fulfil, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us, in this world, knowledge of thy truth, and, in the world to come, life everlasting.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

TUESDAY EVENING.

O God of the spirits of all flesh, unto thee should all flesh come. It is meet and right, and our bounden duty, that we should, at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord. Thou hast brought us to the conclusion of another day: and we desire, in an especial manner, to praise thee for the many and undeserved blessings which we have received. It is of thy mercies, O Lord, that we are not consumed; because thy compassions fail not; and because we have an all-pre-

vailing Advocate, ever living to make intercession for us. Our misdeeds testify against us, and our trespass is grown unto the heavens; but thy mercy also reacheth to the heavens, and thy truth unto the clouds. Thou, even thou, art he that blottest out our trangressions for thy name's sake, and for thy beloved Son's sake wilt not remember our sins. Through him thou declarest thyself to have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth; but hadst rather that he be converted and live. And through him thou hast promised forgiveness unto all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto thee. Be merciful, therefore, unto us, O God; for our soul trusteth in thee. Pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Trusting in the multitude of thy tender mercies, and in thy loving-kindnesses which have been ever of old, we flee unto thee for rest and safety this night. Thou seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves. Take us, therefore, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence. Keep us, both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul. Bless us in our lying down, and in our rising up. May

we remember thee on our bed; and think on thee in the night-watches; and when we awake, may we still be with thee.

Furthermore, we entreat thee, O Lord, our God, to bless the whole race of mankind with all things needful for life and godliness. Prepare thy way before the face of all people; and visit them with thy salvation. Vouchsafe thy blessing to this nation and its rulers, and let thy glory still dwell in our land. To all thy people give thy grace, that they may learn to fear thee, and to submit themselves to every ordinance of man, for thy sake. Keep us, O Lord, from all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; and continue to stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies. Give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so that in due time we may enjoy them. Grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy Church may joyfully serve thee in all godly quietness. Bless all who have done, or wished us good; and reward them sevenfold into their bosoms. Do good to those who have done, or wished us evil; and give them repentance and better minds. Preserve the rich and prosperous from worldly pride; and the poor and needy from envyings and discontent. Finally, we beseech thee, Almighty God, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking, to have compassion on our

infirmities; and those things which, for our unworthiness, we dare not, and, for our blindness, we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

WEDNESDAY MORNING.

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done: and have done those things which we ought not to have done. But, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders, according to thy promises in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name.

Help us especially so to live through the day upon which we have entered. Bless us in all our ways; and, whatever we do, may we do it as unto thee, with a single eye to thy glory, and an humble dependence on thy fatherly protection. Enlighten our understanding; control our wills; and sanctify our affections. Preserve us, that neither the pleasures nor the cares of this life may turn away our thoughts from the life which is to come. May we learn and labour daily to live above the world, and to follow all our ocen-

pations in it with a heavenly mind. Enable us faithfully to discharge our several duties to thee, and to our fellow creatures; that we may be useful in our generation among men, and steadfast in our covenant with thee. Having had much forgiven of thee, may we love thee much, and strive to please thee in all our ways. May nothing ever separate between us and thee, by causing us to grow weary of thy service. But may we keep thy covenant for ever; and think upon thy commandments to do them, finding thy yoke easy, and thy burden light; yea, accounting thy service perfect freedom, and the very joy of our heart.

We beseech thee, O Lord, to embrace with the arms of thy mercy not only ourselves, but all who partake of our fallen nature. Pity and convert the wicked. May they no longer make a mock at sin, but learn to tremble at that wrath which thou hast revealed against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. Give them grace to stand in awe of thy judgments, and to sin no more. Bless thy faithful people with knowledge and good understanding in the ways of godliness: and let not the children of this world be wiser in their generation than the children of light. And since many are the afflictions of the righteous, Lord, remember them, and all their troubles; yea, may they be had before thee in everlasting remembrance. Grant that every affliction, though not for the present joyous, but grievous, may yield

the peaceable fruits of righteousness to such as are exercised thereby. And do thou bring them, at the last, to that place of rest and peace, where thou wilt wipe away all tears from their faces; where there shall be no more sorrow, nor crying; nor any more pain.

Assist us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers; and dispose the way of thy servants towards the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, we may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Almighty God, who makest light and createst darkness, the returns of the morning and evening praise thee. We have been defended by thy mighty power through the day; and we desire to conclude it by speaking good of thy name. The dead praise not thee, O Lord; neither they that go down to the silence of the grave. But let the living, let the living praise thee. Grant that we, while we have any being, may sing praises unto thee, our God. Put now into our mouths that glorious song of thanksgiving, which none can sing but the redeemed of the Lord; and, when this life is ended, may we be prepared to join

that countless multitude before thy throne, who rest not, day and night, proclaiming the praises of him who loved them, and washed them from their sins in his own blood.

And, that we may be so prepared, we pray thee, O Lord Jesus, to love us, as thou hast loved them; and to wash us, as thou hast washed them. They were by nature children of wrath, even as we. But we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us the noble works which thou didst in their days, and in the old time before them. And thy arm is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor is thy ear heavy, that it cannot hear. Look therefore upon us, even upon us, also, O Lord, our Redeemer. Arise, help us, and deliver us, for thy name's sake. Be unto us a tower of strength against all our enemies. And, that they may not get advantage of us, grant that we may be always sober and watchful unto prayer, putting on the breast-plate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

We look up to thee, O Lord Almighty, for thy blessing through the night. May we lie down, and our sleep be sweet unto us. And grant that, whether waking or sleeping, we may live together with thee.

We desire, also, to commend our fellow-creatures to thy fatherly mercy. We humbly beseech thee, O thou Fountain of goodness, to bless our civil rulers. Endue them with thy Holy Spirit;

enrich them with thy heavenly grace; prosper them with all happiness; and bring them to thy everlasting kingdom. Remember for good the churches which thy right hand hath planted; and water them abundantly with the dew of thy blessing. Clothe thy ministers with the armour of righteousness, on the right hand and on the left. Make thy chosen people joyful in thy salvation. Bless all parents and heads of families. Deliver them from that wrath which thou hast threatened to pour out upon those who know thee not, and upon the families that call not upon thy name. Give them grace to walk in thy ways, and to command their households after them, bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

We pray thee, finally, O merciful Lord, to remember and bless with thy choicest mercies such as, on any account, are peculiarly dear unto us. Keep them, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make them to have a perpetual fear and love of thy name. Let thy fatherly hand be ever over them: let thy Holy Spirit be ever with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of thy word, that, in the end, they may obtain everlasting salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord: who, with thee and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

THURSDAY MORNING.

O ETERNAL God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life, enable us to draw nigh unto thee by faith, in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ. Blessed is the man whom thou choosest, and causest to approach thee. Grant, Lord, that all of us here assembled together, may be made partakers of this blessedness. Cause us to hear thy loving-kindness in the morning, for in thee do we trust. Cause us to know the way wherein we should go, for we lift up our souls unto thee.

We confess our own exceeding unworthiness to implore these great mercies at thy hands. For we grieve thy Holy Spirit from day to day, and provoke thee to leave us to ourselves. Instead of delighting ourselves in thee, we have followed after other gods. We have sought our happiness in the world, more than in thy favour and love; and too often we have made our hearts the abode of uncleanness, rather than the habitation of thy blessed Spirit. How long, O Lord, shall our vain thoughts and sinful imaginations lodge within us? O cast us not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from us. Thy property is always to have mercy. To thee only it appertaineth to forgive sins. Spare us, therefore, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed: enter not into judgment with thy ser-

vants, who are vile earth, and miserable sinners; but turn thy anger from us, who desire meekly to acknowledge our vileness, and truly to repent us of our sins: and so make haste to help us in this world, that we may ever live with thee in the world to come.

Be pleased, O Lord, to receive our thanksgivings for thy goodness and loving-kindness which have followed us all our days; and particularly for thy preservation of us during the night-season. Thy covenant of the day and night is not broken, though we have so often broken our covenant with thee. We commit ourselves afresh this morning to thy loving-kindness and tender mercies, which have been towards us ever of old. Give us this day our daily bread, both temporal and spiritual. Bestow upon us such a measure of worldly goods as may be needful and profitable for us. And above all, feed us with the bread of life, which cometh down from heaven. Lord, evermore give unto us this bread; and nourish us with it, even unto life eternal. May we always have grace to seek first thy kingdom and righteousness; and to trust thy unfailing promise, that all other things shall be added unto us.

Pour down, we beseech thee, these blessings on our fellow-creatures in general; and especially on such as we desire continually to remember before thy throne.

Favourably receive, O heavenly Father, these

our prayers for them, and for ourselves; and answer them, not according to our merits, but according to the merits of thy beloved Son, our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ the righteous.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

THURSDAY EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth, who is like unto thee, that pardonest iniquity, and passest by the transgression of thy heritage; that retainest not thy anger for ever, because thou delightest in mercy? When we call to remembrance the days that are gone, and consider how many of them have been spent in forgetfulness of thee, innumerable sorrows might well encompass us; and our sins take such hold upon us, that we should not be able to look up. They are more in number than the hairs of our head, and our hearts might well fail because of them, did we not know that thy compassions fail not. We have abundant cause, O Lord, to remember, and to be confounded, and never to open our mouth any more because of our shame, even though thou shouldest be pacified towards us for all that we have done.

We therefore bless thee for Jesus, the Mediator of the new covenant; through whom we hope to be justified from all things, from which we

could not be justified by any righteousness of our own. We adore and magnify thy name, O Father of mercies and God of all consolation, for having called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to thy own purpose and grace, given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. O for a song of praise! for a psalm of everlasting thanksgiving unto thee, the God of our salvation! O Lamb of God, worthy art thou that wast slain, to receive honour, and glory, and blessing.

Teach us, O Lord, to live, day by day, in humble dependence on thy promises, in cheerful obedience to thy laws, and in a sure and certain hope of a blessed immortality. Keep us, we beseech thee, with thy perpetual mercy: and, because the frailty of man, without thee, cannot but fall, keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation. In all time of our tribulation, in all time of our prosperity, in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment, good Lord, deliver us.

Preserve us, especially, from all the evils to which we may be exposed this night. Graciously give thy angels charge concerning us, to pitch their tents around our beds: and grant that our friends, our neighbours, and all who are dear unto us, may be brought in safety to the beginning of another day. But, as we continually carry about us a body of death, give us grace to consider our latter end.

As often as we are about to lie down on the bed of sleep, help us to look forward to that sleep in the dust of the earth, from which all shall awake at the last, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And may we be found meet, in that day, to join in that glorious song which thou hast prepared for those who wait for thy appearing: "Lo! this is our God: we have waited for him, and he will save us. This is the Lord: we will rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear these our supplications; and grant us thy peace all the days of our life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hast renewed thy mercies towards us with this morning light, thou art the God of our life, and the refuge of our souls. Day by day will we make our prayer unto thee.

Look down upon us, from thy holy temple: from thy throne in the heaven of heavens, incline thine ear, and hear us. Remember the everlasting covenant which thou hast established in the blood of thy beloved Son; and, for the glory of thy name, vouchsafe unto us the pardon of our

sins, and all other spiritual blessings. And while many are inquiring, Who will show them any earthly good? Lord, lift thou up the light of thy countenance upon us. Show unto us more of the vanity of the world; of the misery of sin; of the worth of our souls; of the excellency of Christ; and of the beauty of holiness.

Teach us that one thing is needful; and that one thing may we do; giving all diligence to make our calling and election sure; growing in grace and humility, and increasing in the knowledge of thy holy ways.

Keep us this day with thy mighty power. May we be in thy fear all the day long, serving thee as dear children, in the spirit of adoption. Deliver us from all sin and wickedness, and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil. From all blindness of heart, from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy, from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness, good Lord, deliver us. Make us humble and lowly in spirit, cheerful and contented in our stations, true and just in all our dealings, diligent and faithful in our callings, kind and tender-hearted towards our fellow-creatures, forgiving the offences of others, as we hope to be forgiven of thee; bringing under the body, and keeping it in subjection; watching over our thoughts, words, and actions, and letting our moderation be known unto all men. Thus, while we live, let Christ be our

life; and when we die, let death be our gain. And do thou, O God, who hast prepared for them that love thee, such good things as pass man's understanding, pour into our hearts, from day to day, such love toward thee, that we, loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire.

Graciously vouchsafe, O Lord, to let our intercessions come up before thee in behalf of those for whom we are commanded to pray. May it please thee to have mercy on all the nations of the earth. Look with an eye of pity and love upon this nation in general; and especially upon such as are faithful in the land; and upon all who fear thee, and trust in thy mercy. Show unto them that are in error the light of thy truth, and cause them to return into the way of righteousness: and grant unto all such as are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same. Heal the distractions of thy Church; and pour down upon it the spirit of unity and godly love. Assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah. May it please thee, to provide for the poor and needy; to preserve all sick persons and young children; and to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives.

May it please thee to bless with thy most gra-

cious favour, those whom we love, and those who love us; and to grant that we may all be loved of thee. May our substance be blessed of thee, the God of all blessing, this day, and evermore.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Let thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and that we may obtain our petitions, make us to ask such things, as shall please thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Help us to confess our iniquity with that godly sorrow which worketh repentance unto salvation, and to approach thee with the sacrifice of a broken and contrite heart, which thou, O God, wilt not despise.

Look down upon us, through the Son of thy love, in whom thou canst be just, and yet the justifier of all who truly believe in him. Lord, we believe; help thou our unbelief. Pardon our backwardness to receive the record which thou hast given of thy Son. Forgive our slowness of heart to believe all that thy prophets and apostles have spoken of this great salvation. Help us no longer to stagger at thy promises, through unbelief; but to be strong in faith, giving glory unto thee, and believing that what thou hast promised, thou wilt also faithfully perform. Grant, also, O God, that we may guard against every thing which might

serve to weaken the ground of our confidence towards thee. May we never grieve thy Spirit, nor wound our own conscience, by doing what our heart condemneth: but may we always walk according to the light which we receive; and be enabled with truth to say, Thou, Lord, who knowest all things, knowest that we love thee. Seal us, we pray thee, with that Holy Spirit of promise which is the earnest of our inheritance. And grant, that through thy help, we may live according to thy will in this life present, and also may be partakers of everlasting glory in the life to come.

Of thy bountiful goodness, O Lord, pour down thy blessings on the whole human race, that all nations whom thou hast made may come and worship before thee, and glorify thy name. Especially bless our own country. Save us from national judgments; from foreign invasion; and from domestic tumults. From lightning and tempest; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death; good Lord, deliver us. May it please thee to direct, sanctify and govern all who are in authority over us. May it please thee to bless and keep all thy people. May it please thee, likewise, to regard with thy love and compassion, our beloved friends and neighbours. Keep them steadfast in thy faith and fear. Guide them by thy counsel here, and receive them hereafter to the kingdom of thy glory.

Accept, O Lord, our hearty thanks for the mercies of the past day. And further hear us, while we implore the continuance of thy blessings upon us, particularly through the night-season. Hide us under the shadow of thy almighty wings, till the perils and dangers of darkness shall have passed away.

May it please thee, most merciful Father, with thy perpetual favour to look upon us; that, by thy great goodness, we may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Almighty God, who turnest the shadow of death into morning, and causest thy sun daily to rise on the evil and on the good, we humbly approach thee with the offering of our thanks and praise, for having preserved us once more to meet together in thy presence. Grant that thy manifold and great mercies pertaining to the present life, may be always remembered by us with gratitude and love. May we think of them when we lie down, and when we rise up; when we sit in the house, and when we walk by the way.

These mercies, we acknowledge, no righteousness of our own hath merited, nor hath our own prudence or strength procured them; and there-

fore, not unto us, O Lord, but unto thy name be all the praise, to thy power, and wisdom, and goodness; by which alone our lives have been preserved, and our wants supplied. To thee, also, we acknowledge ourselves indebted for all spiritual blessings. Thou didst make man upright at first; but we sought out many inventions, and corrupted our way before thee. Yet when we had the sentence of death in ourselves, thou saidst unto us, Live. Blessed be thy name that thou hast not appointed thy people unto wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let not any of us, we pray thee, neglect so great salvation. But, since thou hast given thy only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an ensample of godly life, give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life. Grant unto us, O Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and to do alway such things as are right; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; and so in the end may obtain everlasting life.

Be pleased, O Lord, to bestow on others the blessings which we have implored for ourselves. Prosper all endeavours to spread abroad thy Gospel in the world. While many are running to and fro in the earth, let the knowledge of thy sal-

vation be increased. Give unto thy beloved Son dominion and glory, and a kingdom; and let all people, nations, and languages, serve him. O thou who dividest to the nations their inheritance, and settest the bounds of the people, graciously behold this land. We beseech thee to save and defend all Christian rulers; that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. Give also unto those who are under authority a spirit of meekness and submission; a spirit of contentment and obedience; a spirit of sure trust and confidence in thee, who makest poor and makest rich; who puttest down one, and raisest up another. And pour down upon us all a spirit of unfeigned thankfulness, for the many and great blessings with which thou hast visited us, even from of old, and beyond other nations: giving unto us such a sense of them, as shall cause us to love and praise thee all our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father, Almighty, world without end.

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

SATURDAY EVENING.

O ETERNAL, immortal, invisible and only wise God, incline, we beseech thee, thine ear to our

calling; and let the voice of our prayer and thanksgiving enter into thy presence. Thou hast brought us to the conclusion of another week; and we acknowledge with thankfulness all the mercies which thou hast bestowed upon us from the beginning of our lives to this moment. We bless thee for having made us, at the first, capable of loving and serving thee. We praise thee for the preservation of our being from week to week, exposed as we are continually to various diseases, and sundry kinds of deaths. We thank thee for food and raiment; for health and strength; for kind friends and benefactors; for peace and protection by day, and for rest and safety by night; for the comforts and conveniences of life; and for all our other blessings. But, above all, we heartily thank thee, O heavenly Father, for having called us to a knowledge of thy grace and faith in thee. We bless thee for the many religious privileges which thou affordest us in this favoured land; for the Church in which thou hast placed us; for thy faithful ministers; for thy holy word; and for all the means of grace which we enjoy.

Prepare us for the rest of thy holy Sabbath. Enable us so to order all our worldly affairs, that we may not be interrupted by them in the discharge of the important duties before us. May we fear to rob thee of any portion of thy holy rest on earth, lest we provoke thee to swear in thy

wrath, that we shall never enter into that eternal rest which remaineth for thy people.

We beseech thee to receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before thee for all estates of men in thy holy Church; that every member of the same, in his vocation and ministry, may truly and godly serve thee, in the duties of the approaching Sabbath.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all the stewards of thy mysteries, [more particularly to thy servant who ministereth unto us in holy things;] that, both by their life and doctrine, they may set forth thy true and lively word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments. To all thy people give thy heavenly grace; especially unto us who are here present, and to all who shall assemble with us in thy courts; that, with meek heart and due reverence, we may hear and receive thy holy word.

Finally, we desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our evening sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end: and in whose blessed name and words we further pray:

Our Father, &c. The grace, &c.

THE END OF THE FOURTH WEEK.

FAMILY PRAYERS.

FOR

PARTICULAR OCCASIONS.

FOR CHRISTMAS-DAY MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly beseech thee to accept our hearty thanks for the manifold mercies which thou hast poured upon us. We bless thee, especially, for sending, as on this day, thy well-beloved Son, to take our nature upon him, and to be made in the likeness of sinful flesh. We rejoice that unto us a Child is born; that unto us a Son is given. And we would join the multitude of the heavenly host, in ascribing glory to thee in the highest; peace on earth; good-will toward men. We praise thee for revealing to us the way in which mercy and truth have met together; in which righteousness and peace have kissed each other. And we account it a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Help us, O Lord, to employ this day in meditating on this great mystery of godliness, God manifest in the flesh, which thy holy angels desire to look into. And as, when thou didst bring

thy first-begotten into the world, thou didst command all the heavenly host to worship him, so may we also give unto him the glory which is due unto his name.

O thou great and glorious Redeemer, who art Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace, we praise thee; we bless thee; we worship thee; we glorify thee; we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, Lamb of God, the only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, King of kings, and Lord of lords, Emanuel, God with us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. But chiefly, at this time, we adore thee for leaving the glory which thou hadst with the Father before the world began. We know thy grace, O Lord Jesus Christ, that though thou wast rich, yet for our sakes thou didst become poor, that we, through thy poverty, might be made rich. We beseech thee, by the mystery of thy holy incarnation and nativity, good Lord, deliver us. O Son of David, have mercy upon us. Thou, who didst come that we might have life, and might have it more abundantly, be gracious unto us.

Thou, who wast called Jesus, that thou mightest save thy people from their sins, save us, and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord.

Grant, that we, being regenerate and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by the Holy Spirit, and follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; ever remembering that he gave himself for us, to redeem us from all iniquity, and to purify us unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. Vouchsafe, O Lord, thy special blessing to us this day. May we pour out our hearts before thee, with joy and praise, in the congregation of thy people.

[And when we meet around thy altar, may we receive the pledges of thy love with gladness and singleness of heart.] And may we, on every return of this season, so profit by the holy institutions of the Church in which thy good providence hath placed us, that when Christ, who is our life, shall appear a second time, we also may appear with him in glory.

Hear us, further, we beseech thee, most gracious Father, and grant that the glad tidings which we commemorate this day, may be made known unto all people. Have compassion on those who have never heard of the coming of our blessed Lord in the flesh. In him who hath arisen to rule over the Gentiles, let the Gentiles trust, and find his rest to be glorious. Mercifully with thy favour look upon the whole Christian world. May all that name the name of Christ depart from iniquity. Especially preserve them from turning this sacred season into an occasion of revellings

and unholy mirth. Let them rejoice, as Christians, in Christ their Saviour; and let thy grace teach them to deny all ungodliness and worldly lusts, and to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.

And, as at thy first coming, O Lord Jesus Christ, thou didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee, we beseech thee, finally, to grant, that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries [particularly such as shall proclaim them this day,] may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; that, at thy second coming to judge the world, we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we further pray:—

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR CHRISTMAS-DAY EVENING.

O HOLY and merciful God, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, and yet long-suffering towards sinners, we approach thy throne, acknowledging our unworthiness, and putting our whole trust and confidence in the promises which thou hast made unto us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We have greatly provoked thee to anger by our manifold offences; and, were not judgment thy strange work, we should long since have received at thy hands the just reward of our evil doings.

But thou declarest thy almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Thou hast not stretched forth the right hand of thy majesty to avenge thee of thine enemies; but with thy own arm thou hast wrought out redemption for us. Thou hast not sent thy Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

We bless thee for revealing to us this great mystery, which was hid from ages and generations, but is now made manifest unto the sons of men. We rejoice that unto us was born, as on this day, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Our souls do magnify the Lord, and our spirits do rejoice in God our Saviour. Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Praised be thy name, for sending forth, in the fulness of time, thy only-begotten Son, made of a woman, made under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. Glory be unto thee, for causing thy loving-kindness towards us to appear. Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to thy mercy, thou hast saved us.

O thou, who wast in Christ reconciling the world unto thyself, not imputing their trespasses unto them, forgive us all our trespasses. Through him, who was made in the likeness of sinful flesh, and came to seek and to save that which was lost,

have mercy upon us. By the mystery of his holy incarnation and nativity, good Lord, deliver us. Let the same mind, also, be in us, which was in Christ Jesus; who being in the form of God, and thinking it not robbery to be equal with God, yet made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was found in fashion as a man, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. Help us continually to follow the example of his great humility. In lowliness of mind may we esteem others better than ourselves. And give us grace so to walk in all holiness of living, that we may not be ashamed before him at his coming.

We pray likewise, O heavenly Father, that, through thy tender mercies, the Day-Spring from on high, which hath visited us, may arise, and shine upon the nations that are sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide their feet into the way of peace.

Grant that it may both be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and be the glory of thy people Israel.

And may none of those who behold it, love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil.

Raise up faithful and able ministers of the New Testament, to go before the face of the Lord, to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people, by the remission of their sins.

Pour down thy grace and heavenly benediction

upon all who are called Christians; especially upon such as have assembled with us in thy house of prayer; [and around thy holy table.] May the children of Zion be joyful in their King! And may they so truly follow the blessed steps of their Lord and Master, that they may be saved by him in the great day of his appearing and glory. Grant this for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Lord and Saviour.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR THE CLOSE OF A YEAR.

EVENING.

ALMIGHTY and eternal Lord of heaven and earth, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning, who art the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever, and whose years fail not throughout all generations; from everlasting to everlasting thou art God.

Accept, we beseech thee, our humble sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving for thy goodness and mercy which have followed us all our days. We especially bless thee for delivering us from the perils and dangers of the year that is now drawing to a close; from which no strength of our own could have saved us. It is only by having obtained help of thee that we continue to the evening of this day.

We humble ourselves before thee, confessing

and bewailing all that we have done amiss. Enter not into judgment with us, but spare us, according to thy great goodness. According to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out our offences. Pardon and accept us for the sake of thy only-begotten Son, whom thou didst send into the world, as at this time, to take our nature upon him, that he might redeem us unto thee by his blood. Bless us in turning us away, every one of us, from our iniquities. Wash us thoroughly from our wickedness, and cleanse us from our sins; and let them all be buried with the closing year, to rise up against us no more for ever.

And keep us mindful, good Lord, as the years of our life pass away, that the end of all things is at hand; and make us sober and watchful unto prayer. May we never forget that we are strangers and pilgrims upon earth, as all our fathers were; that we have no continuing city here, and ought diligently to seek one to come. Our years pass away like a shadow, or a vapour, which appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. Lord, teach us so to number them, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Make us to know our end, and the measure of our days, that we may consider how frail we are, and may learn to redeem the time that remaineth. May we remember also, that life is uncertain, as well as short; and that in the midst thereof we are continually in death. Give us grace to watch and pray, since

we know neither the day, nor the hour, when the Son of man cometh. May we be always ready, with our loins girt about and our lights burning; that, whenever he may say, Behold, I come quickly, we may be able to reply, Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Above all, we beseech thee to preserve in us a lively remembrance, that it is appointed unto us once to die, but after death the judgment; and that we shall, every one, receive the things done in the body, according to that we have done, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

May we so regard thy promises and threatenings, that when we die, we may die the death of the righteous, and our latter end may be like his. Help us to fight the good fight, to finish our course, and to keep the faith, that there may be laid up for us a crown of righteousness, which thou, the righteous and merciful Judge, wilt give unto us in that day.

Hear us, O Lord, we further beseech thee, while we make our hearty intercessions for all who are partakers of the same frail nature with ourselves. Look in mercy upon those who are in the morning of their years. May they remember their Creator in the days of their youth, before the evil days come, and the years draw nigh, of which they shall say, there is no pleasure in them. May they so bear in mind the vow and covenant which has been made in their name,

that when they come to age, themselves may perform the same. As thou hast promised that they who seek thee early shall find thee, do thou graciously dispose them to seek thee earnestly with all their hearts; that so they may become thy sons and daughters, growing in wisdom as they grow in years, and in favour with thee and man.

Mercifully regard, also, such as are in the strength and vigour of life; and dispose them to give unto thee the best of their days, and not to weary themselves for very vanity.

Lastly, we pray thee to remember those whose strength is now but labour and sorrow. Enable them to bring forth fruit in their old age, according to the ability which yet remaineth. May they come to their graves, like as a shock of corn cometh in his season. When their flesh and their heart fail them, be thou the strength of their hearts, and their portion for ever.

Fulfil, O Lord, these our petitions, for the sake of our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR A NEW YEAR.

MORNING.

Almighty and everlasting God, who livest and abidest for ever, with whom one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day, who

wast, and who art, and who art to come. Thou hast made our days, as it were, a span long. Our age is as nothing in respect of thee; and verily every man living is altogether vanity.

Sin hath entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death hath passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. We therefore consume away in thy displeasure, and are afraid at thy wrathful indignation. Thou hast set our misdeeds before thee, and our secret sins in the light of thy countenance. When thou art angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end, as it were a tale that is told.

But though we are thus doomed to suffer thy righteous sentence, yet we bless thee, O Lord, for not executing upon us the fierceness of thy anger. We bless thee, that though in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. We praise thee for the gift of him who was manifest in the flesh, that he might destroy death; and hath brought life and immortality to light by the Gospel; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die; and whosoever liveth and believeth in him shall not die eternally.

We give thee thanks, also, O heavenly Father, for sparing us from year to year; and for giving us further space for trial and amendment. And we beseech thee still to spare us, O Lord most holy, O God most mighty; and, at last, to deliver us from the bitter pains of eternal death. Merci-

fully grant, that thy great goodness may lead us to repentance. With this new year help us to begin a new life. Quicken us in the way of righteousness, that we may set out afresh in our Christian course; and may cleave unto thee with fuller purpose of heart. Other lords, beside thee, have had dominion over us; but hereafter by thee only may we make mention of thy name; presenting ourselves a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto thee, which is our reasonable service.

And, as on this day, thou didst make thy blessed Son to be circumcised, and obedient to the law, for man, we beseech thee to grant unto us the true circumcision of the Spirit; that our hearts and all our members being mortified from all worldly and carnal lusts, we may, in all things, obey thy blessed will. Give us grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; and with pure hearts and minds to follow thee, the only God. O thou, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men, grant unto us, that we may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found.

Our days are as a hand-breadth: they pass away as a dream when one awaketh: and we all do fade as a leaf. Our years are determined with thee, and the number of our days: and thou hast appointed our bounds that we cannot pass.

Let us never forget, O Lord, the solemn and affecting truth, that this year we may die.

May we not boast ourselves even of to-morrow; for we know not what a day may bring forth; and there may be but a step between us and death. Enable us to work while it is called to-day, before the night cometh, when no man can work. Whatever good our hand findeth to do, may we do it with all our might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither we are going.

Be merciful unto those who have lived all the years of their life in carelessness and sin. Give them grace to think on their ways, and to turn their feet unto thy testimonies, before the things that belong unto their peace are for ever hidden from their eyes.

Turn the hearts of such as have set their affections on this world, and are minding only earthly things. Awaken them to a sense of their danger, by the remembrance, that time is short; and that, before another night, their souls may be required of them. And teach them henceforth to use the world without abusing it; seeing that the fashion of it passeth away.

Touch the minds of all who are putting off their repentance from year to year, with the awful thought, that hereafter they may find no place for repentance, though they seek it carefully, and with tears. Cause them to see that now is the

accepted time; now is the day of salvation. Look in pity upon those who, having once escaped the pollutions of the world, are again entangled therein, and overcome; and are now led captive by Satan at his will. Burst their chains of bondage, and bring them into the perfect liberty of thy children. Restore them to the way of righteousness, lest it be better for them that they had never known it. Be gracious unto all who have chosen that good part, which none can take from them. Uphold their going in thy way; and keep them in the path in which they should go. May they go on from strength to strength, till every one of them appear before thee in Zion.

Finally, we beseech thee to look with special favour upon those, the days of whose pilgrimage are drawing to a close, and the time of whose departure is at hand. Even in their old age be thou with them; and in their hoary hairs do thou support them. And, when thou hast guided them here by thy counsel, receive them hereafter to the kingdom of thy glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR EASTER-SUNDAY.

MORNING.

O MERCIFUL God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lived and was dead, and is alive

again, we rejoice in the return of this sacred day, on which he loosed the pains of death, and was raised from the grave, being made the first-fruits of them that slept.

We bless thee, that he was delivered for our offences, and raised again for our justification. For he is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world: who, by his death, hath destroyed death, and him that had the power of death; and, by his rising to life again, hath restored to us everlasting life.

Blessed be thou, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, of thy abundant mercy, hath begotten us again to a lively hope, by his resurrection from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for all who are kept by thy power, through faith, unto salvation.

We confess that we are by nature dead in trespasses and sins, and cannot, by our own power, raise ourselves to newness of life.

But thou, O Christ, art the Resurrection and the Life; and thou hast declared, that whosoever believeth in thee shall live, though he die; and that whosoever liveth and believeth in thee, shall never die. We humbly beseech thee, therefore, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness. Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David. By thy glorious resurrection,

good Lord, deliver us. To this end thou didst both die, and rise, and revive, that thou mightest be Lord both of the dead and of the living, and that, whether we wake or sleep, we might live together with thee. Perfect in us, we bessech thee, by thy mighty power, the glorious work which thou hast undertaken, in dying for our sins, and rising again for our justification.

As thou hast loosened the pains of death, because it was impossible that thou shouldst be holden of them; so let the pitifulness of thy great mercy loose us, who are tied and bound with the chain of our sins. Grant unto us that perfect liberty wherewith thou makest thy people free. Do thou make us free, and we shall be free indeed. May we know thee, and the power of thy resurrection; and so put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve thee in pureness of living and truth.

And may it please thee, O Lord God, the God of peace, thyself, who didst bring from the dead the Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, to make us perfect in every good work, to do thy will, working in us that which is well pleasing in thy sight.

Vouchsafe thy special blessing to us this morning. Put into our minds good desires; and enable us to bring the same to good effect.

May the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from

the dead dwell in us, and quicken us in all the duties of this day. Raise our thoughts from the things of this world, and fix them upon those things which are above, where Christ sitteth at thy right hand. Help us fervently to join the prayers and praises of thy people in the courts of thy sanctuary.

[And since Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us, therefore let us keep the feast. And give us grace so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.]

Grant, also, unto those who shall assemble with us, that they may be plenteously endued with all heavenly graces, and be prepared, with meek heart and due reverence, to hear and receive thy holy word, [and to be meet partakers of thy holy mysteries.]

Pour down thy Spirit from on high on the ministers of thy blessed Gospel: and while they preach Jesus and the resurrection, let thy word, in their mouth, be as life from the dead; that so they who are sleeping in their sins, may awake, and arise from the dead, that Christ may give them life.

And grant unto all, grace to consider that the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear the voice of the Son of man, and

shall come forth; they that have done good, to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation.

Grant these our requests, for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR EASTER-DAY.

EVENING.

Most merciful God and Father, we, thy humble servants, beseech thee to receive our hearty thanks for thy great goodness vouchsafed unto us.

We have been favoured with the advantages of another day of sacred rest. We have been permitted to assemble together in the courts of thy house, [and around thy holy table.] We have once more commemorated thy wonderful love to us, and to all mankind, in giving thy Son not only to die for our sins, but to rise again for our justification; that having overcome the sharpness of death, he might open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

We bless thee that thou hast not suffered us to follow a cunningly devised fable, but that all things which before thou hadst showed by the mouth of all thy prophets, thou hast so fulfilled. Our hearts rejoice, and our tongue is glad; because thou hast not left his soul in hell, neither

didst thou suffer thy Holy One to see corruption; but hast declared him to be the Son of God with power, by his resurrection from the dead, saying, This is my beloved Son; to-day have I begotten him.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be our strong Helper! And praised be the God of our salvation! The Lord liveth; and is alive for evermore; and hath the keys of hell and death.

Our souls do magnify the Lord, and our spirit doth rejoice in Christ our Saviour.

Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna to the Prince of Peace! With his own right hand, and with his holy arm, he hath gotten to himself the victory.

By his glorious resurrection, good Lord, deliver us. Deliver us, and take away our sins, for the honour of thy name. Justify us freely by thy grace, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

And grant, that, as he was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also may walk in newness of life; reckoning ourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. May we follow his example, and be made like unto him; and as he died and rose again for us, so may we, who are baptized unto his death, die from sin, and rise again unto righteousness, continually mortifying all our evil and corrupt affections, and daily proceeding in all virtue and godliness of living.

Help us always to remember that our Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and that, though after our skin worms shall destroy this body, yet in our flesh we shall see God: whom our eyes shall behold, and not another.

Grant, that whenever this vile body shall be committed to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust, it may be in sure and certain hope of a joyful resurrection to eternal life, and may be changed like unto Christ's glorious body, according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things to himself. Thus do thou ransom us from the power of the grave: redeem us from the second death. Say unto death, I will be thy plagues, and to the grave, I will be thy destruction: that so we may rise from the dead, to die no more; being thy children, O God, and the children of the resurrection.

Hear us, O God of mercy, in behalf of our fellow-creatures.

Grant that the Sun of Righteousness may arise with healing in his wings upon all nations that are sitting in darkness and the shadow of death; and dispose them to come to the light of his beams, and to the brightness of his rising.

Have mercy on the house of Israel; and let them know assuredly, that thou hast made that same Jesus whom their forefathers crucified, both Lord and Christ.

May those who are living in sin remember, that thou hast appointed a day, in the which thou wilt judge the world in righteousness, by that man whom thou hast ordained, whereof thou hast given assurance unto all men, in that thou hast raised him from the dead.

Comfort those who are mourning for the loss of beloved friends and relations, departed this life in thy faith and fear. Teach them to sorrow not, even as others which have no hope, for them that sleep in thee; believing, that if Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

Deliver those, likewise, who, through fear of death, are all their lifetime subject unto bondage. And take away from thy dying servants the bitterness thereof, and enable them to say, O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Hear us, O Lord, in these our petitions for ourselves and others, for the sake of thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, in whose name and words we further call upon thee.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR WHIT-SUNDAY.

MORNING.

ALMIGHTY God, by whose good providence we are brought to see the light of another morning,

mercifully accept our thanks for this thy goodness towards us.

Thou art the hope of all the ends of the earth; and upon thee the eyes of all do wait for their portion in due season. Unto thee, therefore, do we lift up our eyes, O thou that dwellest in the heavens. We wait now, at thy footstool, for the promise of thy Spirit, which, as at this time, thou didst miraculously pour out upon the sons of men, enduing them with divers powers from on high. And we praise thee for the gracious assurance that he shall remain with thy people always, even to the end of the world. Without his mighty aid we can do nothing that is rightful. We know not what to pray for as we ought, unless he help our infirmities, and make intercession for us, according to the will of God. We have need of his holy inspiration, to think those things that be good; and of his merciful guiding, to enable us to perform the same. Grant, therefore, we beseech thee, that he may continually rest upon us, as a Spirit of wisdom and understanding; a Spirit of counsel and strength; a Spirit of knowledge and true godliness; a Spirit of holy fear and love; a Spirit of truth, unity, and concord; a Spirit of everlasting consolation and good hope.

Especially vouchsafe unto us such a measure of his grace as may be needful for the due observance of this day. May he guide us into all truth. May he open our understandings to un-

derstand the Scriptures, and our hearts to receive them. May he prepare us to join in the solemn services of thy temple; [and] to pour out before thee the voice of prayer and praise in the congregation of thy people, [and to partake of the mysteries of thy table.] Let not our past abuse of thy Sabbaths, and of thy other mercies, provoke thee to cast us away from thy presence, and to take thy Holy Spirit from us. But rather, do thou give unto us true repentance, and a greater measure of strength from above; that we may stir up the gift of God that is in us, and be quickened to greater diligence in improving the means of grace and salvation.

Grant that we, being regenerate, and new created in Christ Jesus unto all good works, may be made more meet for that glorious kingdom, into which thou hast declared, that none can enter who are not born again. Seal us, we pray thee, with that Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance. And may the blessed hope of dwelling with thee be shed abroad in our hearts, and abound through his almighty power. Enable us daily to rejoice in this hope of thy glory; that amidst all the trials and troubles of life, it may be to us the anchor of our souls, both sure and steadfast.

Be pleased, O Lord, to hear the voice of our intercession in behalf of our fellow-creatures. Pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh. Arise, O Lord,

in the greatness of thy strength, and awaken to a life of righteousness, those who are dead in trespasses and sins. Send out thy light and thy truth to the nations who know not thy name, and have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. Have mercy on thy people Israel, and fulfil thy word of promise towards them. A new heart do thou give them; and a new spirit put within them; and take away the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh. And put thy Spirit within them, and cause them to walk in thy statutes; and to keep thy judgments, and to do them. Shed abroad all spiritual blessings on the churches of thy saints. May they be edified by the truth, as it is in Jesus; and, walking in thy fear, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, may they be multiplied exceedingly. Be especially present with those who shall meet together in thy house of prayer. Bless all Christian ministers. Endue them with thy Holy Spirit, enrich them with thy heavenly grace; and let the words which they shall speak this day, be applied to the hearts of men in the demonstration of the same Spirit, and of power. May he, the Spirit of all truth, convince the faithless; enlighten the blind; instruct the ignorant; direct the inquiring; strengthen the weak; convert the wicked; humble the proud; sanctify the faithful; reclaim the backsliding; comfort the afflicted; and grant unto all, the diversity of his gracious operations, severally as they stand in need.

Hear us, O God, in these our prayers and supplications, for the sake of Jesus Christ; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be ascribed equal adoration and praise, now and evermore.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR WHIT-SUNDAY.

EVENING.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have access by one Spirit unto thee, hear, we beseech thee, the voice of our unfeigned thanksgiving. Glory and honour be unto thee, O Father of mercies, for all the benefits which thou hast done unto us; and, especially, for the spiritual blessings in Christ Jesus, with which we are favoured. We praise thee for thy holy word; for thy appointed ministers; for thy house of prayer; [for the sacrament of the body and blood of our Saviour Christ;] and for all the means of grace which have been vouchsafed unto us this day.

We praise thee for the unspeakable gift of thy beloved Son; for his wonderful love and humiliation; for his holy incarnation and nativity; for his precious death and burial; for his glorious resurrection and ascension; but, chiefly, for the coming of the Holy Ghost, which he shed forth abundantly, as at this time, according to his word.

We praise thee for saving us by the washing

of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost.

We bless thee for thy promise, that if we ask, we shall have; if we seek, we shall find; if we knock, it shall be opened unto us. So give now therefore unto us that ask; let us that seek, find; open the gate unto us that knock, that we may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord. By the coming of the Holy Ghost, good Lord, deliver us.

We acknowledge him as the Author and Giver of spiritual life to our souls. We are not sufficient of ourselves to think any thing of ourselves; but all our sufficiency is of him; and we can do nothing, except it be given us from above. Look upon us, therefore, who are by nature dead in trespasses and sins. Say unto us, live; and thy word shall be as life from the dead.

Grant that all carnal affections may die in us; and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in us. Help us to put off, concerning the former conversation, the old man, which is corrupt, according to the deceitful lusts; and to put on the new man, which, after thy image, is created in righteousness and true holiness. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by thy holy inspiration, and make them a habitation for thyself, the temples of the living God: and let us not defile

them by taking pleasure in unrighteousness. By thy special grace preventing us, put into our minds good desires, and by thy continual help enable us to bring the same to good effect; that we, who cannot do any thing that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will. Grant, we beseech thee, that as thou didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit, so we, by the same Spirit, may have a right judgment in all things, and may evermore rejoice in his holy comfort.

Look, O Lord, on a world of transgressors, who are enemies to thee by wicked works. Have compassion on those who deny his eternal power and Godhead: and show unto them, who are thus in error, the light of thy truth, and cause them to return into the way of righteousness. Be merciful, also, unto such as profess to believe in him, yet are doing despite to his grace, and are strangers to his sanctifying power. May they see that they only are thy children who are led by thy Spirit, and walk in the way of righteousness. Strengthen such as do stand. Let them not grieve that Holy Spirit by which they are sealed unto the day of redemption; but ever obey his godly motions in righteousness and true holiness. Comfort and help the weak-hearted; raise up them that fall; and finally beat down Satan under their feet.

Be gracious unto those whom the Holy Ghost

hath made overseers to feed the Church which thou hast purchased with thy blood, and may they be faithful dispensers of thy holy word and sacraments; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; to whom be ascribed equal glory, praise, and adoration, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR ASH WEDNESDAY, OR A FAST-DAY.

MORNING.

O God, who hast commanded us to submit to every ordinance of man for thy sake, give us grace to humble ourselves before thee, for the sins whereby we have justly provoked thee to bring down thy sore judgments upon us, and to afflict us with the scourge of war. We acknowledge and bewail our manifold and great offences. We are indeed a sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evil-doers, children that are corrupters, a rebellious and perverse generation, that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit cleaveth not steadfastly unto thee. Thou hast nourished and brought us up like children, and we have rebelled against thee. We have experienced thy goodness, but have not been led to repentance. We have seen thy judgments abroad in the earth, but have not learned righteousness. Above all, we have neglected thy great salvation, and have set at nought thy tender mercies in Christ Jesus.

O Lord God, unto us belong shame and confusion of face, because we have sinned against thee; neither have we obeyed thy voice to walk in thy laws, which thou hast set before us. But to thee belong mercy and forgiveness. For thou art a merciful God, full of compassion, long-suffering, and of great pity; who wouldest not the death of sinners, but hadst rather that they turn from their sins, and be saved. Many a time have we provoked thee to anger; but thou hast not suffered thy whole displeasure to arise Be gracious unto us, therefore, even as thou art wont. Spare us, O Lord, though, for our evil deeds, we do worthily deserve to be punished. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people; and let not thy heritage be brought to confusion. In the midst of judgments still remember mercy. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father: for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honour and glory of thy name.

Pour down upon all orders of men the abundant influences of thy Holy Spirit. Save and defend thy servant the President of the United States; that, under him, we may be godly and quietly governed. And grant unto the great council of the nation, at this time assembled, and to all that are put in authority under them, that they may truly and impartially minister justice, to the punishment

of wickedness and vice; and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. Give grace, O Lord, to all the ministers of thy Gospel, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively word. May they especially this day lift up their voice in thy name. Let them cry aloud, and spare not; but show thy people their transgressions. And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, especially unto such as shall humble themselves before thee this day. And grant unto the whole nation, a spirit of repentance and reformation. Make us to return every man from his evil way, and to amend every man his doings, that we may become a people fearing thee, and working righteousness.

And, while we truly repent us of our sins, may it please thee to repent of the evil which thou mayest have pronounced against us. Turn away from us the dreadful scourge wherewith thou hast justly visited us.

O Lord God of hosts, to whom victory belongeth, thou God, to whom victory belongeth, stir up thyself, and come among us, and with great might succour us. Let thy mighty arm, and the right hand of thy majesty, be stretched forth to help and defend us; for vain is the help of man, and weak is the arm of flesh.

Bless all who are actively engaged in our defence, both by sea and land. May they do violence to no man, and be content with their wages.

Inspire them with valour and patience; and enable them to show forth in their lives the united duties and graces of Christian soldiers.

O God, who hast commanded us to love our enemies, and to pray for them that despitefully use us, and persecute us, have mercy upon our adversaries in this present war. Deliver them from blood-guiltiness, O God; and give unto them the spirit of unity and godly love. Subdue those lusts and evil passions from which wars and fightings do come; and let all mutual offences, and hatred, and ill will, be removed; and grant that, being reconciled to thee and to each other, the nations of the earth may strive together only for the faith of the gospel. And do thou, the Lord of peace, give them peace always by all means.

Finally, we beseech thee to grant, that, so long as we hear of wars and rumours of wars, and distress of nations, with perplexity, thou wouldest cause the wrath of man to praise thee. Overrule all changes in the kingdoms of the earth to the glory of thy name, and the success of thy Gospel, through Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be equal honour, adoration, and praise, now and evermore.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

FOR A FAST-DAY.

EVENING.

O Almighty God, King of kings, and Lord of lords, the blessed and only Potentate, who dost what thou wilt in the armies of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth, putting down one and setting up another, and to whom none may say, What doest thou? we acknowledge the justness of those visitations under which we have been called upon to humble ourselves before thee this day, and to turn unto thee in weeping, in fasting, and in prayer.

Thou hast uplifted thy arm in anger, and, because of our iniquities, thou art wrathfully displeased at us.

We desire again, O Lord, as a family, to bow down before thee, and to confess the many and great offences whereby we have each contributed to increase the number of those national offences for which thou hast entered into judgment with us. In many things we have all offended thee; in pride, in impenitence, in hardness of heart, in contempt of thy word and the means of grace, in forgetfulness of thee, and disobedience to the commands of thy dear Son.

But though we have thus sinned against thee, yet we desire to fall into thy hands, for thy mercies are great; and let us not fall into the hands of

men. Though thou hast been angry with us, let thy anger be turned away, and suffer not thy whole displeasure to arise. Comfort us again now for the time wherein thou hast plagued us, and for [the days] [years] wherein we have suffered adversity. Remove from us the judgments which we feel, or fear; and so sanctify to us the dispensations of thy providence, that we may profit by our present sufferings, and receive them as the wise corrections of thy fatherly hand, which chasteneth all whom thou lovest, and scourgeth all whom thou receivest. So search and try us, that we may all learn by thy godly discipline to examine our ways, and to turn to thee by a lively repentance. Suffer us not to return to our former sinfulness and disobedience; nor again to yield to those evil passions and desires which have brought down thy just judgments upon us: but save us, O God of our salvation; save us, not only from our worldly, but also from our spiritual enemies; and more especially, save us from ourselves. And grant, that, in every dispensation of thy providence, whether of prosperity or adversity, we may ever lift up our hearts above this lower world to thy heavenly kingdom; where pain, and sorrow, and war, and hatred, shall be no more, and where alone true joys are to be found.

Be pleased, O Lord, to hear the prayers which have this day been offered up by thy assembled people; and let them come up as a memorial be-

fore thee. And as thou wouldest have spared the cities of old, if ten righteous could have been found in them, so may it please thee to regard thy faithful servants who have this day stood in the breach, and made intercession for these nations. For their sakes, and for thy mercy's sake, spare us; and let not the righteous perish with the wicked.

Be favourable, O Lord, unto those who are jeoparding their lives for us in the high places of the field, and in the waters of the great deep. Teach their hands to war, and their fingers to fight. Give them for a helmet the hope of salvation, and holiness for an invincible shield.

Arise, O Lord, and let our enemies be scattered: let them also that hate us, flee before us. Send from heaven, and save us from the rebuke of them that would swallow us up. Hide us under the shadow of thy wing, until this tyranny be overpast.

O Lord, be gracious unto our land. Increase among us that righteousness which exalteth a nation; and save us from sin, which is the reproach of any people.

So dispose and govern the heart of thy servant the President of the United States, that, in all his thoughts, words, and works, he may ever seek thy honour and glory, and study to preserve thy people committed to his charge, in wealth, peace, and godliness.

Bless all who are in authority under him. In-

struct his counsellors; and teach his senators wisdom. Prosper all their consultations to the advancement of thy glory, the good of thy Church, the safety, honour, and welfare of our country.

Remember with thy favour all who are under authority; and teach them to be subject not only for wrath, but also for conscience' sake.

Put away from us all murmurings and discontent; all revilings and evil-speakings towards the rulers of thy people; and teach us to bear with their infirmities, and to remember that they are but men.

Forgive the sins of those among us who have not joined in the public humiliation of this day.

May those also who may have regarded this day, but not unto thee, be brought to see that the form of godliness, without the power thereof, is in thy sight nothing worth.

Finally, we beseech thee to have mercy upon our enemies, and to turn their hearts; and let wars and fightings for ever cease.

These blessings, for ourselves, for our country, and for our enemies, we humbly beg in the name and mediation of Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

UNDER FAMILY AFFLICTION.

MORNING OR EVENING.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, our only help in time of need, we flee unto thee for succour in this season of tribulation and distress. Out of the deeps we call unto thee, O Lord. Lord, hear our voice. O let thine ears consider well the voice of our complaint.

We acknowledge, O God, that for our iniquities we are visited, and for our sins are we troubled. We are born to trouble as the sparks fly upward, because we have been transgressors from the womb. And if thou shouldest be extreme to mark what we have done amiss, our present sorrows would only be the beginning of sorrows which should know no end. Wherefore should a living man complain? a man for the punishment of his sins?

But thou art a gracious and merciful God; full of compassion and of great goodness. Thou hast not dealt with us according to our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. Blessed be thy name, that thou not only hast opened unto us a way of escape from the wrath to come, but hast mercifully ordained the sufferings of the present life to work together for good to them that love thee. Thy wise providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth. Not a sparrow

falleth to the ground without thy knowledge and appointment; and the very hairs of our head are all numbered. Thou assurest us, that thou dost not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men, but for their profit, that they may be partakers of thy holiness. Whom thou lovest, thou chastenest; and scourgest every son whom thou receivest.

Thou afflictest us to humble us, and to prove us, and to know what is in our hearts; and whether we will love thee, and keep thy commandments, or no.

Give us grace therefore to consider, in this day of our adversity, wherefore thou contendest with us, and art wroth. Let us not despise thy chastening, nor faint when we are rebuked of thee; nor be weary of thy correction. But let us be still, and know that thou art God. In patience enable us to possess our souls. Grant that our tribulation may work patience; and patience experience; and experience hope; and our hope, let it not make ashamed; but let thy love be shed abroad in our hearts, through the Holy Ghost given unto us. Let us not cast away our confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. Though troubled on every side, let us not be distressed; though perplexed, let us not be in despair; though cast down, let us not be destroyed. And be pleased to cause our light afflictions, which are but for a moment, to work out for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at

the things that are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen, are temporal; but the things which are not seen, are eternal. Though no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; yet afterwards let it yield the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto us who are now exercised thereby. Grant that we may find it good to be afflicted, and see that thou, of very faithfulness, hast caused us to be in trouble. And whenever it may please thee to deliver us out of the miseries of this sinful world, of thy gracious goodness receive us into that blessed kingdom, where thou shalt wipe away all tears from our eyes; where there shall be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away.

We beseech thee, also, O Lord, to have compassion on our brethren and companions in tribulation.

Have mercy upon all sick persons; and make all their bed in their sickness. Eternal God, be thou their refuge, and place underneath them thy everlasting arms. Look graciously upon them, O Lord; and the more the outward man decayeth, strengthen them, we beseech thee, so much the more continually, by thy grace and Holy Spirit, in the inward man. Give them unfeigned repentance for all the sins of their past lives, and steadfast faith in thy Son Jesus; that their sins may

be done away by thy mercy, and their pardon sealed in heaven, before they go hence, and are no more seen.

We commend into thy hands, as into the hands of a faithful Creator and most merciful Saviour, the souls of those who are departing this life; most humbly beseeching thee, that they may be precious in thy sight. Wash them, we pray thee, in the blood of that spotless Lamb which was slain to take away the sins of the world; that whatsoever defilements they may have contracted in the midst of this miserable and wicked world, through the lusts of the flesh or the wiles of Satan, being purged and done away, they may be presented pure and without spot before thee.

Be gracious also unto thy people who are weeping, and refuse to be comforted, for the loss of beloved friends and relations, departed this life in thy faith and fear. Let them not be sorry, as men without hope, for those that sleep in thee: but comfort them with the joyful expectation, that they shall see each other again at the resurrection in the last day.

May it please thee, likewise, to defend and provide for the fatherless children and widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed.

And, since many are the afflictions of the righteous, Lord, remember them, and all their troubles. Regard those who are in heaviness through manifold temptations. Graciously hear us, that

those evils which the craft and subtilty of the devil or man worketh against them be brought to nought, and by the providence of thy goodness, they may be dispersed; that they, thy servants, being hurt by no persecutions, may evermore give thanks unto thee, and glorify thy name.

Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness all those who are any ways afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate. That it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions.

[Hear us, especially, in behalf of thy servant, for whom we desire especially to pray. We look up unto thee, O thou compassionate Saviour, who wast thyself a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. O thou who didst weep at the tomb of Lazarus, and art still touched with the feeling of our infirmities, pitifully behold the sorrows of our hearts, and graciously look upon our afflictions. O thou, who, of old, didst cure all manner of sickness, and all manner of disease among the people, be gracious unto us. Let not this sickness be unto death; but for the glory of thy name. Speak the word only, and thy servant shall be healed. Have mercy upon *him*, O Lord, have mercy upon *him*; and not on *him* only, but on us also, lest we should have sorrow upon sorrow. If it be possible, let this cup pass away

from us, without our drinking all its bitterness; but, if not, thy will be done. Only be pleased to sanctify this thy fatherly correction to *him*, that the sense of *his* weakness may add strength to *his* faith, and efficacy to *his* repentance: that, if it should be thy good pleasure to restore *him* to *his* former health, *he* may lead the residue of *his* life in thy fear and to thy glory; or else give *him* grace so to take thy visitation, that after this painful life ended, *he* may dwell with thee in life everlasting.]

And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake.

Our Father, &c. Grace, mercy, and peace, &c.

OCCASIONAL PRAYERS.*

A PRAYER TO BE USED BY A CHILD.

O Lord my God, who dwellest in heaven, but yet beholdest all things that are done upon earth, and who by thy blessed Son hast invited little children to come unto thee, accept, I beseech thee, the praises which I now offer unto thee, and mercifully hear my prayers. Thou art my Creator; for thou hast made us, and not we ourselves. I thank thee, therefore, O Heavenly Father, for the gift of life, and for the comforts and enjoyments with which thou hast blessed it. Thou art my Preserver, by whose watchful providence I am kept from the dangers with which I am surrounded. My safety, my health and happiness, are all owing to thy gracious and fatherly care. O may I be duly thankful to thee for thy mercy and protection every hour that I live. Above all, I bless and praise thee, O Lord, for thine unspeakable love in sending thine only Son into the world to die for our offences, and to save us from sin and eternal death. Enable me to live as I ought to live,

* The following prayers have been selected for this work.

in the remembrance of thy great goodness towards us. Make me so to guard my heart and govern my conduct, that whatever I think and whatever I do, may be pleasing and acceptable in thy sight.

And grant, O Lord, that I may be careful in all my behaviour towards men. Make me dutiful and loving to my parents, kind and affectionate to my brothers and sisters, obedient and respectful to my pastors and teachers, modest, humble, and gentle in all my intercourse with my companions and friends. Grant that I may be pure in my thoughts, true in my words, and holy and unblameable in all my deeds; that keeping a conscience void of offence, I may live in favour with thee and in honour among men, and at last be received into thy heavenly kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER BY THE MOTHER BEFORE CHILD-BIRTH.

O Almighty God, Father of men and angels, in whose hands are the keys of life and death; look down in great mercy and gentlest compassion upon thy unworthy servant. Thou hast fixed the sharpest decree of sorrow and pain upon the weakest of mankind; but thou so lovest to magnify thy mercies and thy power, as that thy strength may be seen in our weakness. So let it be, O God, unto thy handmaid; let thy loving-kindness be

my confidence and rest, my hope and my security, both now and in the hour of my travail.

Give me grace to rely with unshaken confidence upon thy glorious promises. Thou hast commanded us to call upon thee in our trouble, and hast promised to deliver us. O leave me not, nor forsake me, for there is none that can help or deliver, but only thou, O God. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be confounded. Give me patience and resignation, a perfect abandonment of my own will, and a conformity to thine; that I may be prepared to endure evil at thy hand with fortitude, or to receive good with thankfulness. But yet, O Lord, my God, give thy servant leave to pray unto thee, that thou wilt not cut me off in the midst of my days, nor forsake me when my strength faileth. Spare me, O God, that I may live to serve thee, to redeem my time misspent in folly, to gain victory over my temptations, and perfect dominion over my passions. O spare me a little, that I may recover my strength, before I go hence and be no more seen; so shall thy servant rejoice in thy mercies, and speak of thy loving-kindness in the Church of thy redeemed. And grant that those impressions of fear and love, of hope and desire, which thy grace makes upon me in the circumstances of my present condition, may abide in my soul for ever, and in the days of ease and safety may be as productive of holiness, as they now are of hearty

prayers and passionate desires for thy mercies, upon me in a safe and blessed child-birth.

Lord, be gracious unto my child, and grant that it may be born with a perfect body and sound mind, and let thy Spirit of grace bless and sanctify it in baptism, and conduct it in safety and holiness from the cradle to the grave. Hear me, O gracious God, for his sake who suffered the infirmities of our nature, and died for our sins, and rose again for our justification, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

A MOTHER'S PRAYER FOR HER CHILDREN.

O MOST gracious and eternal God, who hast promised to be a Father to a thousand generations of them that love and fear thee, be thou a God and a Father to me, and the children which thou hast given me. Enable me to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, to the praise and honour of thy holy name. O give me thy grace and favour, that I may instruct them with prudence and firmness, and lead them, both by precept and example, into the ways of righteousness and truth; never provoking them to wrath by the harshness of my rebukes, nor through weakness indulging them in their follies. And that all my children may be thine, O preserve them in thy favour or take them away from hence whilst they are in-

nocent. But if it be thy good pleasure to let them live to a full age, secure to them, I beseech Thee, a full measure of piety and holiness. To this end give them grace to obey their parents, that doing the duty they may receive the promise. Preserve them from sin and shame, from youthful follies, and youthful crimes. Sanctify them wholly in their bodies, souls, and spirits, that their thoughts may be pure and spotless, and acceptable in thy sight. Let their words be discreet and prudent, sincere and holy, that they may minister grace unto the hearers. Let all their actions be such as become the servants of Christ, that pleasing thee and doing good to others, they may increase in the love of thee, their God, and in favour with men; and may have the portion of the meek and humble in this world, and of the pure and merciful in the world to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

FOR ONE WHO IS DANGEROUSLY ILL.

O Lord our God, we come unto thee in behalf of this thy servant, here lying in great weakness of body under thy chastening hand. Look down upon him, we beseech thee, in pity. We know, O Lord, that if thou wilt thou canst even yet raise him up, and heal all his infirmities. In submission to thy will, we beg this mercy at thy hands. Spare him, good Lord, and restore him to health.

Comfort our hearts, by granting him a longer continuance among us. But however thou shalt be pleased to deal with him, yet, Lord, let his soul be ever precious in thy sight. Give him repentance towards thee, and a lively and triumphant faith in Jesus Christ. Wash his soul with the blood of thy Son, and adorn it with the graces of thy Spirit, that it may be cleansed from all its defilements, and in the great day be presented pure and without spot before thee. Fit him for whatever in thy wise providence thou hast appointed, that it may be unto him Christ to live, and gain to die, and that in all things he may find cause to glorify thy name. If thou shouldest be graciously pleased to raise him from his bed of languishing, grant that he may lead the residue of his life in thy fear and to thy glory. Or if thou hast otherwise determined, prepare him for the hour of his departure. Support him in his last agonies. Defend him from the danger of his enemies. And finish all that is wanting in the work of his salvation. Make his last end easy and peaceful, and his hope full of immortality. And finally receive him into the arms of thy unspeakable mercy, and into the glorious estate of thy chosen saints in heaven. All which we ask, in the name and through the mediation of our Advocate and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

FOR A SICK CHILD.

ALMIGHTY God, and merciful Father, to whom alone belong the issues of life and death; look down from heaven, we humbly beseech thee, with the eyes of mercy, upon this sick child. Deliver him, O Lord, in thy good appointed time, from his bodily pain, and visit him with thy salvation; that if it should be thy good pleasure to prolong his days here on earth, he may live to thee, and be an instrument of thy glory, by serving thee faithfully, and doing good in his generation: or else receive him into those heavenly habitations, where the souls of those who sleep in the Lord Jesus enjoy perpetual rest and felicity. Grant this, O Lord, for thy mercies' sake, in the same thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

THE END.

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